



A History Of
First Baptist Church

SHELBY, NORTH CAROLINA

DUKE UNIVERSITY
DIVINITY SCHOOL
LIBRARY



GIFT OF

First Baptist Church



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2013

HISTORY
OF
First Baptist Church
OF
SHELBY, NORTH CAROLINA

* * * * *

Mrs. C. Rush Hamrick, Jr., Editor

R. Hubbard Hamrick, Historian

* * * * *

Copyright
First Edition
1969

Printed at Shelby, North Carolina - August, 1969

Church Covenant

Having been led as we believe by the spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour; and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, back-biting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Saviour, to secure it without delay.

And we moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

Div. S.
286.1756
H232G



DEDICATED

In Loving Memory

To

MRS. O. MAX GARDNER

Shelby's beloved Mrs. O. Max Gardner, who died January 16, 1969 at the age of 83, was a lifelong member of First Baptist Church of Shelby and was the great-granddaughter of one of its founders and first pastor, the Rev. James Milton Webb. A woman of strong faith, she loved her church and its people and they, in turn, loved her. The areas of her beautiful life are defined in her religious, charitable, cultural and educational endeavors which will endure for many generations.



First Baptist Church of Shelby, North Carolina . . . 1969

PREFACE

It is a difficult task, indeed, to compile and edit an authentic history of so great a church as the First Baptist Church of Shelby, North Carolina. Rather it has been a labor of love for the enrichment we have received in our own associations with the church and its membership, and in the product we humbly submit as the first history of this mighty institution.

While the church dates back to that momentous day of June 19, 1847, it must be pointed out that there are no minutes up until the year 1871, thus a great portion of the very early activities and growth of the church can not be recorded.

In other periods, from 1882 until 1895 and from September, 1929 until January of 1935, there are no church records to research since these are presumably lost. In many laborious efforts on the part of the church historian and the editor it has been possible to glean information from the Kings Mountain Associational minutes and Broad River Associational minutes and many other sources so as not to interrupt the continuity and unfolding drama of this church.

It has also been through the cooperation and assistance of many persons that we have been able to compile the historic information in the ensuing pages, gather it into book form, and distribute it near the 122nd anniversary of the church.

We make no claim at being trained historians and doubtless have violated some of the accepted canons of historical writing, but we believe few factual errors will be found. We have meant to offer dates and events relative not only to the church's beginning but to Cleveland County and Shelby as well since all three were born within a six-year period. It is hoped that those who are interested in history will be able to use the book for references.

Too, we have attempted to keep the history factual and in doing so have not been able to pay recog-

dition to so many members who have rightfully deserved a place in this history. It would have been an unwieldy list had we contrived to name all who have been active in various church phases, or who have given so generously of their time and money to the operation of the church, though this would have been our wish. We beg the understanding of the church membership in this connection.

While we offer our sincere thanks to all who have helped in any way with this publication, we would like to remind you of the words of Edmund Burke who declared:

"He who will not look into the past to see the way our forebears have traveled cannot with certainty interpret the present nor with clarity chart the future."

Mrs. C. Rush Hamrick, Jr.
Editor

R. Hubbard Hamrick
Historian



GRACE RUTLEDGE HAMRICK



R. HUBBARD HAMRICK

CONTENTS

	Pages
Church Covenant	2
Preface	5-6
List of Pastors	8
Pastor's Message	10-11
General History	13-61
Music Department and Educational Directors	62-75
Sunday School	77-83
Woman's Missionary Union	85-90
Youth Directors	91-93
Brotherhood	95-97
Training Union	99
Scouting	101-04
Pastors and Their Biographies	105-39
Deacons	140-42
Church Staff and Officers	144-45
Picture Section	146-54
Sources	155
Church Roll	156-67

LIST OF PASTORS

1847-1969

JAMES MILTON WEBB	1847-1849
M. C. BARNETTE	1850, 1866-1870
WADE HILL	1851, 1860, 1872-75
A. J. CANSLER	1853-1856
THOMAS DIXON	1857-1859
E. A. CRAWLEY	1861-1863, 1864-1865
TILLMAN R. GAINES	1863-1864
NEEDHAM B. COBB	1870-1872
A. L. STOUGH	1875-1879
J. A. WHITE	1880
W. A. NELSON	1880-1883
R. D. MALLARY	1883, 1885, 1887
W. B. BUSSEY	1884-1885
W. H. STRICKLAND	1885-1887
J. M. McMANAWAY	1887-1890
G. P. HAMRICK	1890-1892
J. L. SPROLES	1892-1894
J. D. HUFHAM	1894-1896
R. F. TREDWAY	1897-1902
W. D. HUBBARD	1903-1904
M. E. PARRISH	1904-1908
C. A. JENKINS	1908-1911
L. W. SWOPE	1912-1916
LEE McBRIDE WHITE	1917-1918
J. MARCUS KESTER	1919-1922
ROBERT L. LEMONS	1923-1925
ZENO WALL	1925-1948
HARLAN HARRIS	1948-1853
JOHN E. LAWRENCE	1954-1964
FORREST FEEZOR (Interim)	1964-1965
JOSEPH T. McCLAIN	1965-1968
GENE L. WATTERSON	1969-



Auditorium of First Baptist Church . . . 1969

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

In this brilliantly written but all too brief history of the first 122 years of this great church, we are privileged to leave with our predecessors something of the trials and triumphs, the conflicts and conquests that have brought us to this present moment. We sense the pulsing of energy, the thrust of growth, the tension of struggle, and the thrill of achievement. We are impressed also with the feeling of kinship for we are a part of the continuing history of a great congregation.

It has been said that the past is but the pattern of the future. If this be true then we too shall have our times of testing. For us also, there will be moments when the quality of our dedication to the Lord Christ is at issue. From this we do not shrink for the great God who has given victory to the efforts of others shall sustain us as well.

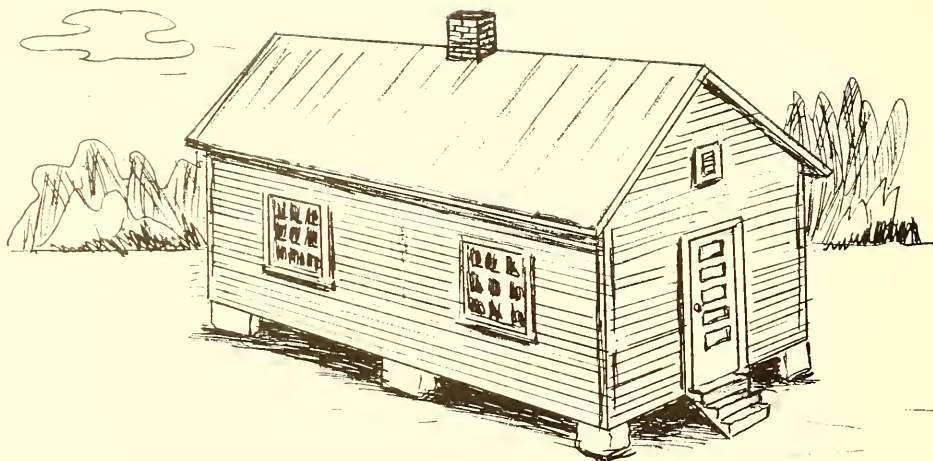
In the continuum of the work and worship of this community of faith, we are mindful of the words of the writer of the book of Hebrews, "Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sand which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith".

As our forebearers endeavor to build a fellowship of believers under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, so shall we. In this task, our commitment is to "Trust in the Lord with all our hearts, lean not to our own understanding, in all our ways acknowledge Him and trust Him to direct our paths".

Gene L. Watterson



REV. GENE L. WATTERSON



ARTIST'S SKETCH of Baptist Meeting House as recalled by Miss Ollie Hamrick, the church's oldest member at age 94. Erected in 1846, the building housed Shelby Baptist Church from 1847 until 1889.



EARLY BAPTIST FAMILIES—Pictured on the corner of Washington and Warren streets as it appeared in 1891 are left to right, Lawson Blanton, Dora Hamrick (Mrs. W. H. Jennings), E. B. Lattimore, Hattie Lattimore (Mrs. W. B. Nix), Joe L. Suttle, Florence Doggett (Mrs. J. K. Cowan). Frame building in back was home of Ab Blanton which also housed a general store. Site is that of the present court house annex.

GENERAL HISTORY

No one can deny that the dedicated men and women composing the membership of the First Baptist Church of Shelby, North Carolina have constituted its chief glory and distinction. This is dramatically true of that early group who initiated the movement to organize our church in June, 1847, beginning almost simultaneously with the start of the county of Cleveland itself.

In the unfolding drama of the 122 years of First Baptist Church, situated in the heart of the county seat, we find that this mighty agency of God, which began humbly in the midst of confusion and controversy, has grown incredibly in size, witness and ministry. Living faith, dauntless courage and invincible optimism have led its members from the first band of believers through today's modern worshippers, leaving in its wake nearly one and a quarter centuries of progress.

Cleveland County was founded in 1841, having been originally a part of Rutherford and Lincoln Counties. There was much discussion as to where the county seat would be located and there were proponents for two locations: one near the present Zion Baptist Church and the other near what is now the Cleveland County fairgrounds, which would have placed the town partly in Rutherford and partly in Lincoln.

However, two far-sighted, civic-minded citizens, William Forbis and James Love, helped settle the controversy when they gave 40 acres and 147 acres respectively for the town of Shelby. Forbis and his wife, Elizabeth, deeded the first 40 acres to the commissioners on which to locate the county seat in a deed drawn on June 18, 1841, recorded in Book A, page 9, the deed reading "in consideration of the good will and attachment entertained toward the new county measures lately adopted by the legislature of our state."

James Love and his wife, Susan, presented the county a site in what is now the heart of Shelby, composed of 147 acres of land, in a deed of conveyance dated August 11, 1841 and recorded in Book A, page 15. Requesting the commission to locate the county seat "at some point not over four miles from Thomas Wilson's mineral springs," the Love gifts of land have created interest through the years since the court square was one of his parcels and, also, the provisions of his deed included one-acre lots facing each side of the town square which he gave to the following churches: Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal and Presbyterian. The earlier Forbis deed did not stipulate how the land was to be used but was clearly a gift for the county seat.

The Love parcels were a part of a 300-acre tract he purchased for

\$300 from Samuel Espey on June 2, 1840, the deed recorded in Book 44 at page 45 in the Rutherford County courthouse, one year before Cleveland county was formed.

A careful comparison of the points of record in the James Forbis and James Love deeds to the John R. Logan map of 1850 of Shelby indicated the 40 Forbis acres included the oldest portion of Sunset cemetery, southward through Marion and Warren Streets—a tract lying almost directly west of the court square. Identification of the Forbis grant is difficult since it was marked by “a persimmon tree, post and red oaks.” Nevertheless, the best of historians believe that the Forbis grant, combined with the 147 acres grant of James Love were the original tracts forming the town of Shelby.

The larger donor, who must be remembered for his generosity, granted the commissioners permission to sell at public auction the part of his gift which was not needed for public buildings and the designated houses of worship. Commissioners sent to Lincolnton to get John Harry, a native of Maryland, as auctioneer to sell the approximately 141 acres not designated and, by the grand public sale in 1842, James Love created the background for the first real estate auction and boom in Shelby. Auctioneer Harry painted a glorious picture of Shelby, telling his bidders that some day the city would possess a population of 500! The nearly \$15,000 brought by the sale was used to construct a log courthouse, a tight jail and a crude poorhouse.

It should be noted that James Love was a man of quiet dignity with a capacity for foresight and wisdom and his neighbors regarded his opinion highly, going to him for counsel and advice. He was owner of the only threshing machine in this part of the country which was used regularly by the community. He also owned and maintained on his farmlands the only harness shop in the county. Shelby's new elementary school located near old Zoar school in South Shelby and under construction in 1969, is named the James Love school for this early benefactor.

For the sake of interest as well as history, it may be noted that James Love, who was born January 6, 1796 and died November 15, 1878, is buried at Zoar Baptist Church and the tallest tombstone in the cemetery marks his grave.

Though readily accepting the gift of land from Mr. Love, the commissioners did not wholly acquiesce to his wishes. Instead, various lots were chosen and designated for each of the recipient churches. A lot on the south side of Warren Street at the intersection of DeKalb Street was specified for location of a Baptist Church.

CHURCH SITE PURCHASED

Baptists in the area had a mind of their own and declined the offer of land. Instead, they purchased the land where the present church building stands. A lot 130 feet by 130 feet was purchased from Richard Champion for the sum of \$300, the deed dated June 8, 1846 and recorded in Book H. at page 368. For technical reasons this lot was conveyed to the church again on April 9, 1931 by deed recorded in Book 4-D on page 433.

The next acquisition of land was another lot conveyed to Shelby Baptist Church on North LaFayette Street just north of the original lot measuring 140 by 130 feet by deed dated April 25, 1904 and recorded in Book MM on page 527. These two lots make up the tract of land on which the auditorium and old education building are standing, the old education building now housing the church offices.

In 1846 a public meeting house was constructed, mainly "by the efforts and liberality" of William Roberts, Dr. Thomas Williams and David Warlick, on the land purchased by the Baptists. Some of the early residents of Shelby who belonged to other churches had much sport over the words "meeting house." The Rev. James M. Webb and the Rev. Drury Dobbins alternated at holding services in the building once a month.

On March 20-21 of 1847, the local Baptists decided to organize their own church, the actual organization taking place on June 19, 1847. The two persons most instrumental in the organization were the two ministers, Rev. Webb and Rev. Dobbins, with the Rev. Webb serving as first pastor of the church.

FIRST PASTOR

The Rev. James Milton Webb, who was born October 7, 1802 and who died April 24, 1854, was a man of many talents and a character of prominence and outstanding ability. He was a minister of the gospel, clerk of Superior Court, a Representative in the North Carolina General Assembly from Rutherford county, a newspaper editor and publisher. He was described as the leading Baptist minister of his day. He combined his widely divergent occupations in a harmonious manner and there was one time in his career when he was a newspaper editor, minister and clerk of court at the same time.

Twice married, he and his first wife, Kitty White, were parents of 10 sons and three daughters and following her death he married Nancy Hampton, who bore him two sons and one daughter.

As an evidence of the power of Rev. Webb's pulpit oratory, the following incident has been handed down: two men of bad morals were one day talking rather slightly of the excitement in a large congregation the day before, produced by one of Webb's sermons. One said to the other, reproachfully, "I think I saw you crying." "Yes," was the reply, "but that man Webb can make the devil cry!"

In person, Rev. Webb was six feet tall, slender and rather slovenly in his appearance. His nose was of the Grecian style, his long hair, eyebrows and eyelashes jet black and his eyes were dark of a penetrating brilliancy. In his two years as pastor, he more than doubled the membership and inspired enthusiasm.

DRURY DOBBINS

Drury Dobbins was a leader in instigating the organization of the church but, unfortunately, he did not live to see his dream realized. Born just across the state line in Cherokee County, South Carolina on April 7, 1776, Mr. Dobbins spent most of his life in North Carolina. As a youth,

he was a member of the State Line Baptist Church which was the predecessor of the present First Baptist Church of Grover, North Carolina. Later he served as pastor of the Sandy Run Baptist Church for approximately 40 years and it is said he never received anything beyond a mere pittance. By hard labor on his farm, coupled with economy and frugality, he accumulated many of the good things of life to render him quite comfortable and he dealt out many kindnesses to the poor.

Personal drama was as integral a part of Mr. Dobbins' life as was the zeal with which he applied himself to the work of the Lord. During his pastorate at Sandy Run, he married Mrs. Hannah Sams, nee Hannah Callahan, who had been married before but whose husband had deserted her ten years previously. Her husband having been declared legally dead, Mrs. Callahan presumably had no qualms about a second marriage.

However, soon after the wedding the first husband reappeared and declared his intentions of reclaiming his wife. It was the honorable and noble Mr. Dobbins who insisted that the choice of husband be left to the wife in question. This was agreed upon and she, understandably, chose Dobbins as her mate. They lived harmoniously together for many years, during which time a daughter was born to them and who married Richard Harrill.

A shoemaker-farmer-preacher combination, Drury Dobbins worked with his own hands rather than become chargeable to the churches he served. He was described as having sparkling, black, penetrating eyes and bland, pleasant face, and exterior generally of a prepossessing nature. According to the Broad River Association history, "his general outline or physique was a sufficient assurance to a close observer that he was no ordinary man, and his presence was felt and respected by all with whom he was associated."

Leaving his imprint on Baptist work in Cleveland County, he was highly instrumental in formulating plans for the organization of the First Baptist Church of Shelby although he died exactly one month before the formal organization took place. He died on May 19, 1847, and was buried in the eastern edge of Rutherford County near the Baptist Church which bears his name.

Rev. James M. Webb was appointed by the Broad River Association to preach Dobbins' funeral and it is recorded that thousands of people assembled around the stand in the grove for the service. It is said that no two men ever regarded each other with more excessive fondness than did those two stalwart Baptists, Webb and Dobbins.

After singing and a prayer, Rev. Webb read his text: "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and the horsemen thereof! and he saw him no more."—2 Kings ii. 12. Think of such a man as Webb, with such a text as this, to preach the funeral of Drury Dobbins before the Broad River Association, of which he had been a member for 47 years—the guide of its counsels!

He commenced his sermon by presenting a singular combination of the historical and textual parts of his discourse and proceeded to illustrate his subject. The congregation was soon melted by his pathos and

the clearness of his thoughts and were prepared to weep tears like "dew drops" when the preacher turned half around from the book-board, threw himself a little back, raising his hands and his eyes, and in one of those exclamations for which he was inimitable, said: "Oh, Dobbins! dost thy sainted spirit this day witness our feeble efforts to honor thy sacred memory? Art thou with the Man that returned and smote the waters of Jordan with the mantel, saying: 'Where is the Lord God of Elijah?' " Every spirit felt subdued before him, and for thirty minutes more he lifted them up or let them down, at his will.

J. R. Logan wrote in the Association minutes: "Bro. Webb was at home on all such occasions as this, and really the character of his mind and of his feelings, the liveliness of his imagination, the symphony of his tones, combined with an easy deportment in the pulpit, rendered him irresistible."

CHARTER MEMBERS

Available records show that Shelby's First Baptist Church was launched with twenty-five charter members. Only seven of the members are listed in the record: J. R. Logan, William Roberts, David Warlick, Thomas Williams, Thomas Wilson, David Durham and W. H. Green. Logan, Roberts and Warlick served as the first deacons of the church and Williams was the first church Clerk.

Logan was a surveyor and plotted the uptown streets in Shelby, having been credited with foresight and praised more in recent years for the city's wide streets which have adapted to heavy automotive traffic. Logan was also known for his History of the Broad River and Kings Mountain Baptist Associations, as an early educator, legislator, farmer, and above all—a devoted church man.

The first complete list of members to be found is dated February 11, 1871 and shows a total of seventy-nine (79) members, 30 males and 49 females. Since this was twenty-four years after organization of the church, it must be concluded that early growth was somewhat limited.

The first complete membership of 1871 lists the following:

Male members — Thomas Williams, Adam Spake, D. C. Webb, William Dellinger, W. P. Love, J. W. Sullivan, B. Waters, D. N. Durham, W. H. Durham, James Durham, S. J. Noggle, J. Jenkins, J. W. Spangler, T. N. Barnett, Noah Robbs, A. A. Wilson, Lee M. McAfee, Caleb Hobbs, T. W. Love, D. O. McBrayer, George Quinn, A. S. Gardner, Thomas Wilson, E. McBrayer, L. D. Webb, L. N. Durham, John R. Logan, W. W. Green and John A. Parker, the last seven serving as deacons at that time.

Female members were — Eliza Webber, P. A. L. Williams, Cornelia Putnam, Eliza Irvine, D. C. Roberts, Sarah Spake, Eliza Wells, Martha Williams, Jane Bookout, Mary Lowery, F. A. Hoke, Sophia Wray, Ester S. Robbs, Julia McBrayer, Susan P. Love, Susan Smith, E. J. Sullivan, Elizabeth White, Malinda Durham, N. V. Durham, Genelia Quinn, Eliza Webb, Narcissa Beam, Sarah Durham, Fannie J. Durham, Jane Harrell.

Also, Charity Wilson, Emma Logan Herndon, E. Tidwell, Mary Durham, Jane Gladden, Mary R. Hobbs, Olive McBrayer, Harrill M. Jenkins,

Martha Ezell, Elizabeth Robbs, Mary S. Mettagg, J. A. Hawkins, Eva Wilson, Roxannah Parker, A. L. Green, M. V. Parker, Mary Ann Wilson, E. J. Blanton, S. A. E. Hopper, Emily C. Logan, Sally Hoke, A. E. Dickson and Ida McAfee.

BROAD RIVER - KINGS MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATIONS

The church joined the Broad River Association in 1847 but changed in 1856 to the Kings Mountain Association which had been formed five years earlier. Associational harmony did not always prevail and the Shelby church withdrew from the Association in 1858. One of the delegates told that the church had disregarded the advice of the Association by inviting into her pulpit a minister of another denomination.

The difficulty between the Association and Shelby was afterwards adjudicated and settled by a council of brethren from several of the churches of the Broad River and Kings Mountain Associations. The council decided the church had acted properly and in no wise departed from the orthodox principles of the Gospel or principles of the Baptist denomination. However, feelings ran high at the church and at its next conference the prosecuting delegate was expelled from fellowship and the church applied for a letter of dismission, obtained it, and rejoined the Broad River Association, believing, doubtless, that the church had been treated unbrotherly by the Kings Mountain body. The church asked for readmission to the Kings Mountain Association in 1871.

The Kings Mountain Association was formed in convention at Double Springs Church on November 7, 1851 by 13 churches which had been dismissed from Broad River Association. This association includes the historic mountain peak where Col. Patrick Ferguson of the British Army encamped enroute to Charlotte on October 7, 1780, believing the site to be of such a defensive character that no foe could successfully assail him. He took possession of the little hill, called it Kings Mountain and said "he was the King, and that all the devils out of hell could not dislodge him from a fortress so impregnable." He was, however, surrounded and pelted from every side of the mountain and it was here he lost his life and his entire army and military stores were captured, the result contributing largely to the cause of American independence.

One of Cleveland County's most beloved ministers, the Rev. John W. Suttle, the "Little Preacher" as he was affectionately called, was Moderator of the Kings Mountain Baptist Association for 40 years, longer than any other person. Retiring in 1954 after more than 65 years as an active Baptist minister, Rev. Suttle had pastored 37 Baptist churches in North and South Carolina and for 28 years he had pastored from five to seven churches at one time. On his 80th birthday he was pastor of five churches. Rev. Suttle died July 27, 1963, at the age of 91 and his widow, now age 91, resides in Shelby.

EARLY PRACTICES

The church's pastors were not alone in their ups and downs. In early years, they moved often because they were elected to serve only one year

at a time, a custom practiced until 1880. After 1880, pastors' terms were unlimited.

One pastor was very strict in the rules of the church and refused to waiver these rules for anyone. At the height of the turning out of members for dancing, drinking or the like, he had incurred the ill will of many persons, and knowingly, offered his resignation in church conference to take place thirty days hence. However, feeling about him was running so high that a member arose, made the motion to make his resignation effective immediately. A second to the motion was received and the preacher suddenly realized that he had just preached his last sermon at Shelby's First Baptist!

Another pastor, the Rev. J. D. Hufham, is said to have been attending the Southern Baptist Convention in Washington, D. C. during his pastorate (1894-96) when he became ill. He immediately summoned a friend and asked to be taken back to Shelby to die because he knew if he died in Shelby he would go to Heaven but he didn't know where he'd go if he died in Washington.

Pastor A. J. Cansler, who was of German descent, was reprimanded by the Kings Mountain Association because "like many of his ancestry he indulged too freely in the luxuries of the pipe." His fellow Baptists thought that ministers should be examples "for the greater the man, the greater the precedent . . . and we KNOW that the excessive use of tobacco is an evil."

Rev. Cansler was either the first or second newspaper publisher in Cleveland County, having started his Baptist denominational paper, "The Carolina Intelligencer", in 1854, published at a time when Baptists were having sharp differences on doctrinal matters. Another paper published in 1854 was called "Rip's Pop Gun" and was published by Frank Harley who was an itinerate printer who called himself Rip Van Winkle. The latter paper had no local names or news and was suspended soon for lack of funds. It has not been clearly established which of the two papers was published first nor how long Rev. Cansler's publication lasted.

During the time of reconstruction and state of depression following the end of the Civil War in 1865, it is known that some ministers did affiliate with the secret organization, the Ku Klux Klan, whose members had resolved to defend themselves against intolerable burdens, degradation by the Carpet-baggers and to mete out even-handed justice since they felt they had been let down by their government. It was felt that the ministers and a great many good men identified themselves with the KKK to restrain the young and imprudent boys from the perpetration of crime against the people and government that now required their submission and allegiance. It is known that Rev. Tom Dixon, for example, was a chaplain in the KKK.

Immediately after the war, about 150 Union soldiers came to Shelby and took possession of the court square, attempted to control the county elections and to appoint many of the county officers. They remained in the county as late as 1872 and it was in that year that they succeeded in breaking up the annual meeting of the Kings Mountain Association which

was in session at Bethlehem Church.

During a particularly trying period in the church's early years, a revival was held with a Reverend Jordan serving as visiting minister. A zealous man, Mr. Jordan gesticulated greatly and stomped mightily. One night while stomping to illustrate a strong point, he was astonished to have the floor fall through with him.

Another tumultous crash in the church came in the midst of a sermon during World War I, on June 15, 1918, when nerves were on edge among the congregation. At the height of the preacher's sermon, bricks from the ceiling above came raining down and, mistaking the noise for a bomb, a stampede resulted among those present. Close examination later revealed that during the building period years before that time some bricks had been left on the rafters and they finally gave way.

An early practice of the church which continued through the 1890s found male members sitting on the left side of the church and female members on the right side. Too, the big boys sat with their fathers while girls and smaller members of the family sat with their mothers.

PASTOR'S PRODIGY

A prodigy professor and Kenan Professor of Geology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Collier Cobb, was the son of the Rev. Needham B. Cobb who pastored First Baptist in 1870-72. While living in Shelby and attending First Baptist, Collier Cobb founded a newspaper, "The Shelby Home Journal" which he edited at age 9, writing all the news, selling advertising and made the engravings by carving on wooden blocks. He later produced a newspaper in Lincolnton and retired as a publisher at the age of 14 to go into teaching.

After teaching at several North Carolina schools, he attended Wake Forest, the University of North Carolina and entered Harvard in 1886. He went to the University to teach in 1892, serving 40 years on the faculty there, and was honored on the 100th anniversary of his birth, March 21, 1962, by members of his family in Chapel Hill. One of the most prodigious of the child prodigies, he was regarded with respect by his geologist peers and revered by his students for his teaching, his wit and humor. This former member died at age 72 in 1943.

DEBTS, SERVICES

In the year 1871, the sum of \$405 was subscribed for the pastor's annual salary, this amount raised to \$457.60 in 1872. Early conferences which dictated church policy were held on Saturday nights, later moved to Friday nights and finally to Wednesday nights.

In January, 1872, it was recommended that each member pay 20 cents to state missions and it was ordered that a list be kept of those who paid and those who did not. In April, 1872, each male member was ordered to pay 50 cents to meet the present debt.

Early indebtednesses of the church would today be considered very trivial sums but to early congregations these amounts loomed large. On November 1, 1872, the church was indebted in the amount of \$20.33 to the following: D. N. Durham & Co., for sundries, \$1; W. A. Wray, \$1.55;

Webb & Jenkins, \$5.13; B. B. Babington & Son, \$2; John Wilson (sexton) \$2; John L. Moore, \$1.65; and W. W. Green, \$1. Cash on hand at the same time was 15 cents!

Minutes of 1875 record that at that time the church was in debt \$600 for the pastor's salary and other church expenses and that to liquidate the indebtedness the 69 male members would be assessed the amount it was deemed they would be able to pay.

Preaching services were held once monthly until 1876 when two services each month were scheduled, to be followed in 1884 by regular service each Sunday, a custom which has been followed since. A morning and an evening service on Sunday were first held in 1876. Because of overflow crowds which taxed the seating capacity of the auditorium, two morning services were initiated in the 1950s. These services were first held during the summer months only but became a regular practice in 1967 under Dr. Joe McClain's ministry and the early service was cancelled after his resignation.

Early Sunday Schools began in 1864 under the leadership of G. M. Webb, son of the first pastor, and were held in afternoon sessions at the church, but "miracles were worked" in 1903 when Sunday School was changed to the morning hour with 283 persons responding to the time change to mark the largest number ever to attend the Sabbath School up until this time. For a few years afterwards, classes were held during the winter months in the afternoons and during warm weather were held in the mornings. All classes have been held in the mornings since 1912.

Only once has the normal routine of Sunday School been interrupted at First Baptist, and that being in August of 1948 during a dreadful polio epidemic in the community when children were barred from meeting places and gatherings of any size. During this period of quarantine, lessons were broadcast and a full program carried out by radio.



Rev. G. M. Webb

WEATHER

Weather is mentioned several times throughout the minutes as being "so bitterly cold" that only a small portion of the membership was present. In the January 4, 1928 service, only 29 were present because of "bitter cold," but only twice has a service been cancelled due to the weather. During the building period in 1929 one service was cancelled on January 13 because of the "cold high school building" where meetings were being

held while the church was being remodeled. An 11-inch snow on January 17, 1965 caused services to be cancelled on that date.

A deep snow in December, 1935, kept all but 15 from the December 29 Sunday morning service and night services were cancelled. Records say those who attended despite the deep snow were Zeno Wall, assistant pastor H. C. Seefeldt, BTU director Wyan Washburn, assistant organist Mrs. A. C. Dellinger, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Bridges, Polly and Betty Bridges, Loy Weaver, L. S. Cook, J. M. Greene, Kenneth Heffner, Mildred Harrell, Mrs. Charles Washburn, Virginia Washburn and B. S. Greene.

Fifty persons were present for Sunday School and the morning service on February 16, 1969 when the heaviest snow storm in half a century struck this area, leaving 15 inches of snow. All classes met together and were taught by Mrs. Roland Leath and afterwards the morning address was delivered by Dr. Bruce Heilman, president of Meredith College. Dr. and Mrs. Heilman were caught in the storm en route to Shelby and slid down an embankment near Asheboro where they were delayed even further, arriving in Shelby at 5 a.m. on Sunday.

BAPTISMS

The first converts in the church were baptised in outdoor streams, but on July 16, 1871, Zulia Corbett had the unique distinction of being the first person baptized in the newly-built indoor baptistry when "a large and attentive congregation was present to witness it." Emma Eskridge, daughter of Miller and Molly Beam Eskridge, was first to be baptized in the new church on June 25, 1911.

Many of the older members of the church recall the days when baptisms even in the indoor baptistries were not as comfortable as they are today with modern heat. Water in the outdoor streams was expected to be cold but once inside the church buildings the baptismal waters were not as chilly. However, on many occasions in colder months such devices as heated brick were used to warm the water and this method seemed to suffice unless the list of converts was large.

SLAVE MEMBERS

It may be noted here that the first twenty-four and one-half years of the church recorded slave and ex-slave members who occupied the balcony section of the church. The three former slaves of Thomas Wilson were the last to leave the church and at the time they left they explained that they felt they could do more good and feel more at home in a church of their own color.

The three were Mary, Harriett and Margaret Wilson. They left the church on November 4, 1871, six years after the end of the Civil War.

Baptist churches played a part in helping the colored people establish their houses of worship, a committee having been appointed on colored people by the Baptist State Convention in 1866 just after cessation of the War Between the States and during the days of reconstruction. Committee members reported they regretted they could not perform their duty more satisfactorily and resolved that each case must be decided on its own merits; to aid them by kind counsels and through other means as far as

practicable; persuade them to secure for themselves the benefits of an intelligent ministry; and that colored Sunday Schools be established wherever it is practicable with the white brethren and sisters to aid in conducting and instructing in such Sunday schools if at all possible.

As the colored churches were established, Baptist ministers were asked to work among them, help educate them, distribute Bibles, and point out clear and concise doctrines among them. The Broad River Association history by J. R. Logan reads: "It is a commendable thing for the white race to aid them (Negroes) in the establishment of schools of a high order for the training of ministers to lead them from the sinks of superstition and fanaticisms which we are glad to see is being done. We hope to see a continuance of the good work, and a corresponding improvement of the colored race, until it will no longer be said that negro meetings are nuisances. This will be soonest done by educating the negro race to meet the requirements of the times."

In 1871, N. B. Cobb announced to the Broad River Association that colored Baptists of Cleveland and Gaston counties had asked for aid to organize a Missionary Association. Appointed to meet with them and aid in such organization were N. B. Cobb, Thomas Dixon, L. C. Ezell, J. R. Logan and T. H. Mullinax.

RESOLUTIONS TO DECEASED

It was a practice in early days of the church to enter into the conference minutes resolutions to departed members, especially those whose personal participation and faith in the church had defined them as outstanding citizens.

One of the most prominent and dedicated early families of the church was that of T. D. and Matilda Lattimore and their children: Dr. E. B. Lattimore, Stough, Josh, Nelson and Tom Lattimore, Mrs. W. B. Nix and Mrs. J. Y. Irvin. Stough, at age 18, met an accidental death by drowning and he was held in such high esteem by all who knew him that an eulogy by E. Y. Webb was recorded in the church minutes. A fine example of the author waxing eloquent on the death of a popular member, the eulogy reads as follows:

"Our beloved brother, Stough Lattimore, whose sad death occurred on the 25th day of April, 1896, was born on September 6, 1877. He was the son of our brother T. D. Lattimore and sister Matilda and on the day of his death he was 18 years, 7 months and 19 days old; and though young in years his heart was ripe and ready for the Reaper.

"On the 26th of April, 1891 he was baptized into this church, and since that time he has lived a beautiful, consistent christian life; performing at all times for the church such duties as were placed upon him and always serving his Master by kind words, example, and in every way his good heart prompted him to act. No eulogy at our hands is necessary to fix his virtues in the hearts of those who knew him. His own honest, guileless life wove itself into our heart-strings without any effort on his part - and when his death was announced, all hearts who loved him . . . and all loved him . . . were torn and lacerated and cast in gloom. We bless our Master for

the life of our dear young brother . . . a young man who had no enemies, against whom no one could say ought; everybody's friend and to whom everybody was a friend.

"The distinctive element in his life and character . . . and they are the noblest in the make-up of a man . . . were, unselfishness and fairness utterly without guile and devoid of malice. The words malice and envy did not appear anywhere in his lexicon of life. Unselfish! Yes; even to the sacrifice of his own sweet life; a fitting close for such a life that he laid it down to save his companion . . . greater love hath no man than this, and as the cruel waters enveloped him for last sleep he triumphed in the sacrifice even like the savior of men triumphed on Calvary:

Whether on the cross uplifted high
Or in the battles van
The fittest place for man to die
Is where he dies for man.

"It seems to us finite beings who grieve for him that such a genteel sunshiny life should have had a less tragic close, but without murmuring, we remember that God doeth all things well, and paraphrasing a stanza of The Eternal Goodness, by Whittier, we have our feelings expressed:

We long for household voices gone
For vanished smiles we long
But God hath led our dear one on
And he can do no wrong.

"In the church, on the playground, everywhere he was one of nature's young noblemen. With sympathies with the bereaved parents, he was their son but our Stough. And though it was just five years from the time he was buried in baptism to the time earth opened to receive him, it is a beautiful and consoling thought to his mother and father, that they had such a lovely flower to bloom on earth and so soon to be transplanted to adorn the garden of Paradise; and when his playmates, friends and brethren and sisters of this church shall, like him, sail to that shore whence no traveler returneth, they will find our bright sunny smiling leaning over the battlements of Heaven eagerly watching for their coming. Again we express our gratitude that we had such a life in our midst - a life brief, but noble ended only that he might join the choir invisible, who live again in lives made better by their presence.

"In pulses stirred to generosity, in deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn of miserable aims which ends in self."

Signed, E. Y. Webb.

A hint of mystery in the eulogy prompted some research which turned up information that 73 years later the accident which took young Stough's life is still vividly recalled by at least two Shelby residents.

Miss Ollie Hamrick, who at age 94 is the oldest member of the church and whose 78 years of membership has been matched only by the late Dr. E. B. Lattimore, recalls that on that fateful day a group of young people went to Stice's Shoals on a church picnic and she remembers waving to them as they passed her house in buggies. Among the group, she recalls, were her sister Beuna Hamrick (Mrs. Orlando Bostic) and her brother, B.

Olan Hamrick, Mamie Cabaniss, Lillian McQueen, E. B. and Josh Lattimore.

Bloom Kendall, who was 93 in May, 1969, has even a clearer and more concise recollection of the incident since it was he who pulled the victim from the water! Mr. Kendall relates that four of the group were fishing - Stough, Harry Sullivan, R. H. Morrison and himself, and they got into trouble as they fished around a rock and discovered a suckhole on one side. Mial and Fairly Tiddy, brothers, were also on the picnic and it is generally believed that Mial had gotten into trouble around the rock and Stough had attempted to help him when he stepped into the suckhole and drowned. Mr. Kendall, lamenting "the sad occasion when we brought that body home", said they worked with him for half an hour but were never able to revive him.

It may be pointed out that, as in the picnic group mentioned, members of all denominations gathered for social functions since the town was small and all age groups were friends.

Shorter resolutions to the deceased were more typical, as in the one adopted August 30, 1872, following the death of Thomas Wilson which reads: "Whereas the Providence of Almighty God it has pleased Him to take from among us our much beloved and highly esteemed Brother and Deacon Thomas Wilson, one of the oldest and most consistent members of our church. Therefore, resolved that we do and must lament his loss by our church and community, though we grieve not as those who have no hope believing that he has been taken to a mansion prepared for him in the church triumphant at the right hand of God, where pain and sorrow, suffering or death can never more trouble."

"TURNING OUT"

It was the practice of the church to act as mediator between members and even between churches and help settle their disputes before the days of Recorder's or District courts. Therefore, it became the practice of the church to turn out members for various reasons - among those being for the use of profane language, dancing, idolatry, drinking, gambling, covetousness, playing billiards, or missing three services without good reason . . . " and the like as found in Galatians, 5th Chapter."

The last "turning out" was as late as regular church conference in December, 1921 when a member was asked to leave the church for violation of the seventh commandment. In 1915, a woman was turned out because the conference found she "was out of fellowship with the church and refused to affiliate with the church." A male member was turned out for owning a pool table.

In 1870 the records show that one member asked for his letter because he "couldn't get along with another member of the church and refused to associate with him." The church called the two together, helped them patch up their differences and both remained in good standing. To be reinstated after being turned out, the person had to ask forgiveness at a church conference and admit he had been wrong.

Strict attendance rules were the order of the day and in 1872 it was

ordered that any member failing to attend the regular church conference was to send his excuse or attend at the next conference and render it himself, and if he failed to attend the second time and render his excuse then the church would send for him, and deal with him even to exclusion if necessary. Any female member absenting or staying away from the public worship for six months was liable to censure by the church and "sent for to know the cause."

At the June 1, 1878 church conference, two questions were presented: Can a church compel its members to attend the conference on a week day—and can a church compel its members to attend divine services on Sunday? After some discussion, the answer was in the affirmative and afterwards the clerk was required to call the roll of all male members and make a report of all absentees.

To deter gossip and idle talk, the conference of December, 1872, adopted the following: "That all matters of the business pertaining to the church shall not be made public, or spoken of before the world lest sinners should stumble over the infirmities of the Saints and the cause of God be dishonored."

The temperance question had brought about some ill will among Baptists during this era and caused tempers to flare. It was on February 2, 1881 that the following resolution was read and adopted:

"The Baptist Church numbering 202 members and the congregation worshipping with said church desiring to promote the public welfare in every legitimate way possible and being convinced that the use of alcohol and drinks is the worst form of evil against which the gospel has to contend now adopt the following—

"Resolved: first, that the prohibition or temperance movement has nothing to do with party politics but that it is strictly a moral and religious question. We as a church claim the right of petition and therefore respectfully urge upon our Representatives in the present Legislature, Hon. Jasper Stowe, Senator, and Hon. J. Y. Hamrick, representative of Cleveland County, to use their influence in securing the passage of a strictly prohibitory liquor law for the state of N. C. without submitting it to the popular vote, Resolved; second, that in case of failure to pass such a law that the present prohibition for the town of Shelby be left unrepealed as we greatly prefer local prohibition to no prohibition. Resolved: third, that a copy of this proceeding be spread upon our church record book and that copy be also sent both to our senator and representative with the earnest prayer that they do all in their borders of our state."

In regular conference on September 29, 1909, the following resolution against dancing was, after prolonged discussion, adopted by a vote of 79 for and five against; "Resolved, that inasmuch as dancing is regarded by the church as out of harmony with the teachings of the Scriptures, and as opposed to the spirit of Christianity, and withal, as injurious to the persons participating in it, and hurtful to the influence of the church, any member who engages in dancing shall by that act forfeit membership in this church." The resolution was "discussed and spoken to" by C. A. Jenkins, Rev. C. J. Woodson, Brethern William Archer, A. H.

Webb, George L. English, M. N. Hamrick, H. D. Wilson, J. W. Hopper, J. C. Beam, J. S. Wray and J. H. Quinn.

1909 RESOLUTIONS

At a called conference on October 20, 1909 the pastor and deacons offered the following resolutions which were adopted by the conference after a lengthy discussion:

1) Resolved, that this church will expect each member to contribute steadily to its support, according to his ability, as God has prospered him. Failure to use a part of one's means to support the church will subject the offender to discipline, but in the judgment of the church this resolution does not apply to persons who are unable to contribute.

2) Resolved, that this church will contribute steadily to the objects of benevolence approved of, and supported by the Association to which the church belongs.

3) Resolved, that the habitual use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and also the manufacture and sale of the same, for such a use are contrary to Christian morality, and the person so using, making or selling, are subject to the discipline of the church.

4) Resolved, that all members whose lives are so conspicuously worldly and whose conduct is so clearly unchristian or to bring reproach on the (church) cause of Christ, and even to discredit their regeneration, shall be subject to discipline of the church.

5) Resolved, that the church condemns with great emphasis the practice of members attending theatres or any place of low amusement so inconsistent with a christian profession, that this resolution in no way shall condemn lectures, musicals or any clean and uplifting entertainment.

6) Resolved, that any member who is found guilty of dishonesty, gambling (whether by dice, cards, games of chance or otherwise) or fails to make due efforts to meet his just debts, shall be subject to the discipline of the church.

7) Resolved, that card playing involving money or prizes, such as progressive euchre, and bridge or other games of cards played for gain, shall be considered as gambling and such shall subject the offender to the discipline of the church.

8) Resolved, that all members are earnestly requested not to provide for, take part in, or by any means encourage card playing, even when there are no stakes, but in all consistent ways to discourage the same, as harmful to Godliness in their associations and tendencies.

9) Resolved, that any member found guilty of profane swearing shall be subject to the discipline of the Church.

10) Resolved, that any member found guilty of immorality shall forfeit membership, and be excluded as soon as proof is shown.

11) Resolved, that no member shall refuse to be on speaking terms with any other member. That members feeling agrieved shall seek reconciliation according to our Lord's instruction in Matthew 18: 15-17. That in case of failure on the part of the offended member to pursue the course laid down in the aforesaid Scripture the church shall take the necessary

steps towards reconciliation.

12) Resolved, that any member who habitually neglects the services of the church, without just cause, shall be subject to discipline.

In a special conference on November 29, 1911, O. M. Mull offered a resolution letting up somewhat on the severity of the rule regarding dancing and his new resolution was adopted in a 23 to 2 vote that "any member who engages in dancing shall be subject to the discipline of this church." The former rule ordered anyone who engaged in dancing to forfeit his membership.

Also adopted at the same conference was: "Resolved that in cases of un-christian conduct, where we have no rule of discipline and the offending member shall thereunder be subject to the discipline of the church; and that all rules for discipline must be based upon the Bible."

PROPERTY VALUES

The value of the church property in 1900 was listed at \$7,000. The total contributions in 1897 were \$1,061 with the year 1900 a more affluent year, apparently, since in that year the church gave \$60 to foreign missions and pledged \$25 to the Baptist Orphanage. Church records in 1876 reveal that members were "canvassed" for missions after a goal had been set for \$50.

In regular conference on March 3, 1897 a system for raising money for church expenses was adopted consisting of small printed slips on which each member was requested to sign an agreement to pay a certain amount each week. A committee appointed to circulate the slips and to secure the amounts was composed of J. A. L. Wray, Dr. Victor McBrayer, C. M. Latimore and E. Y. Webb.

On November 6, 1897 in a Wednesday night business session, it was voted to devote certain months to raise pledges: November would be for Orphanages; December, State Missions; February, Foreign Missions; March, Home Missions; June, Education; and August, Ministerial Relief.

A resolution in church conference on September 1, 1897 resolved that members of the church were not eligible for letters of dismission to join another church until pledges for current expenses were met. Also, the pastor, Rev. R. F. Tredway, entered a resolution stating: "God in his mercy has set aside one day out of seven for man to rest and worship him. This day is abused by the world and the church by Sunday driving, visiting, neglect of worship and the running of Sunday excursions." He begged his members to refrain from and be against these practices.

In July of 1902 the church found it necessary to erect a fence (strand of wire) around the church yard in order to keep out stray cows and horses. In that same year the first street lights were placed in front of the church. It was not until the year 1916 that the streets in front of the church were paved, this being accomplished during the term of Mayor T. W. Hamrick, a jeweler, who led in the issuance of a \$40,000 bond issue for further paving of streets. Deacons recommended on May 11, 1927 that streets on the south and east sides of the church be paved.

Curbing around the church had already been accomplished as early

as January, 1880 under a committee composed of J. C. Beam, A. Green and D. B. F. Suttle. At a call meeting on August 30, 1908, it was decided to pave the sidewalks of the church property as per agreement offered by the town to pay half the expense.

THIRD CHURCH

The first church building, a wooden structure painted white with a seating capacity of 200 and an additional 50 in the balcony, sufficed for approximately forty years after which it was decided to build a completely new edifice. This second building was completed in 1889 at a total cost of \$6,000. This building was not destined for long use, partially because of extremely poor construction. It is noted in the records that the windows did not fit, the chimney did not draw properly and other construction details left much to be desired. Trouble concerning adequate heat in the winter is mentioned often in the minutes with committees frequently appointed to see that smoke is stopped or the heater inspected. Collections were often taken to heat the church.

By the year 1900 the second church building, barely 10 years old, had become a real problem. Minutes of the July 4, 1900 conference heard a committee report that with two more registers the church could be made comfortable. On November 7, 1900 the conference decided "not to repair the generator at present and use the lamp." Finally, on May 14, 1905 the committee on church building reported and recommended a church to cost no less than \$15,000 be built provided that amount of money could be raised by subscription. Thus the momentum for a third church building was begun although it was about five years later before actual construction got underway.

The third building for First Baptist Church (renamed in 1908 from Shelby Baptist Church) was erected in 1910-11. Both the church auditorium and the Sunday School wing were on the site of the present auditorium. A sliding panel was used to separate the two divisions and several rooms in the basement were also utilized as Sunday School rooms. During construction of this building, members worshipped in the auditorium of the Shelby Graded School and the Court House.

The new building was voted on at a November 14, 1909 conference when the following committee was appointed to solicit funds and serve as a building committee: J. L. Webb, chairman; O. M. Mull, secretary; E. Y. Webb, C. C. Blanton, George Blanton, M. N. Hamrick, L. S. Hamrick, B. T. Falls, H. D. Wilson, Marion Putnam, J. L. Suttle, A. H. Webb, J. J. McMurry, M. A. Grigg, E. M. Beam, A. P. Weathers, J. T. Bowman, W. B. Nix, T. D. Lattimore, J. H. Quinn, J. R. Dover, Rev. C. A. Jenkins, Paul Webb and George R. English. An active sub-committee assisting in soliciting funds was headed by Miss Selma Webb.

In a church conference January 10, 1910, a resolution was adopted to proceed with the building and announcement was made from the committee that \$28,350 had been raised toward its construction.

Special timbers were required for construction of the present auditorium. The large overhead beams, sleepers and sills had to be cut from



Second Church building (1889-1910) showing first parsonage at left.

special trees that were extra large. These special trees were found and cut from the land of C. C. Hamrick and sawed by J. A. Wilson.

First service held in the third church building was on June 25, 1911. The church's tall spires, thin windows, soaring arches and buttresses give it a Gothic air though architects quibble over whether it's French, Eng-

lish or Italian Gothic. The mighty church, however, has characteristics of all three.

General contract for the building went to W. Lee Harbin of Lexington for \$25,885 and architects were Wheeler and Stern of Charlotte, who were paid \$1,250. Pews were purchased from American Seating Company of Chicago at \$2,200; heating, \$1,300 from American Machine and Manufacturing Company of Charlotte; lighting, \$477 from Horne and Brannon of Philadelphia; pipe organ from M. P. Moeller of Hagerstown, Md., plumbing, \$100 from J. G. Dudley; carpeting, \$600, from Parker-Gardner of Charlotte. J. Gilmer Korner of Kernersville was awarded the contract for decorating the church walls, parlor and pastor's study at \$800.

Cost of this building was approximately \$30,000 and the stained glass windows in the auditorium were bought for \$1,300 from George Hardy Payne of Patterson, N. J.

The pipe organ was first used on September 6, 1911 and was installed at a cost of \$2,500 with Charles C. Blanton of Shelby and Andrew Carnegie, a great promoter of learning and philanthropist of New York, each paying one-half of the installation cost.

The first notice of ushers being elected was on June 30, 1909 when the following were elected for two-year terms; Charles W. Washburn, Logan McBrayer, S. A. McMurry, Fuller Hamrick, Dewitt Quinn, Ben Suttle, Willie McBrayer and John Nix. S. A. McMurry was named chairman. Earlier minutes noted election of a chief usher only.

1928 BUILDING PROGRAM

The church outgrew the auditorium and educational equipment from the 1910-11 construction and in 1928 another building program was launched. A committee of 100 was named to proceed with building plans for an educational building and remodeling of the church auditorium. After Dr. Zeno Wall announced on January 1, 1928 that Charles C. Blanton would chairman the building committee and Forest Eskridge would head the building fund, he delivered a powerful sermon on "Going Forward."

J. A. Gardner & Co. of Charlotte was awarded the building contract at \$69,430 with the heating contract going to Charles W. Christian for \$3,444. Hugh White was the architect. Actual cost of the educational building came to \$84,167.74; equipment, \$6,043; and cost of remodeling and enlarging the auditorium, \$42,801.33.

On Easter Sunday, March 31, 1929, the congregation began worshipping in the new buildings with 1,203 attending classes in the new educational building and Dr. Zeno Wall delivering his message "Christ's Resurrection Message" to an approximated audience of over 1,200 in the new auditorium.

The church auditorium was expanded to 65 by 120 feet and was said at the time to be the largest church auditorium on a single floor among the Baptist churches of North Carolina.

On June 13, 1943, dedicatory services were held in the beautiful church plant which had again undergone renovation and extensive redecor-



Third Church Building erected 1910-11.

ation. Dr. Charles H. Durham preached the dedicatory service and at the evening hour the fund note was burned. A revival the following week over which Dr. Durham presided brought 40 additions to the church.

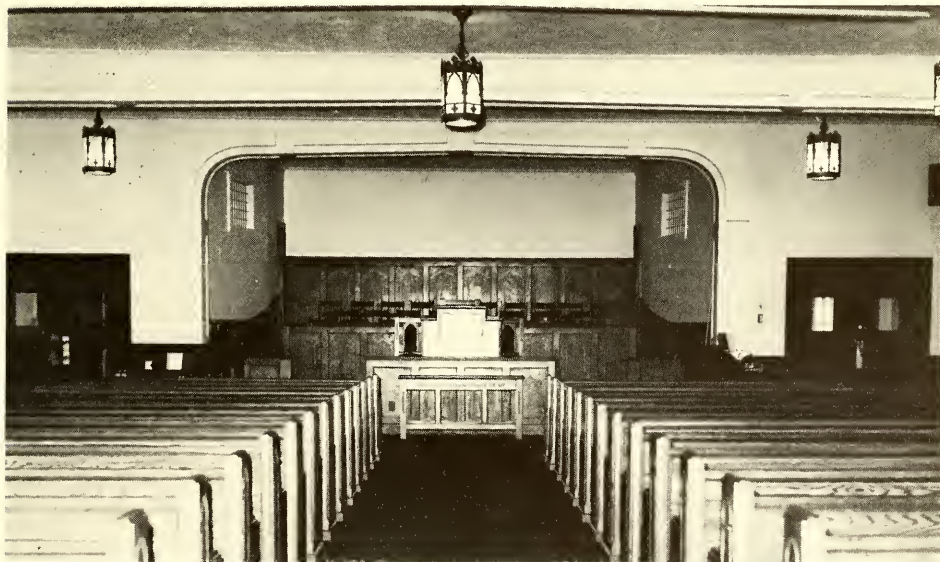
The church plant at this time represented a total cost of \$225,000 and had the reputation of being one of the strongest and most progressive churches in North Carolina.

In 1956 the church auditorium was air conditioned at the cost of \$22,000 and further remodeling and repair came to an additional \$74,718.50. This latest renovation included a new roof, baptistry and paneling, wiring, carpet, furniture repair, air conditioning of offices, heat change and plastering. The stained glass windows were repaired at another cost of \$2,500.

Because of the church's large auditorium, which has a seating capacity of around 1,050 with room for additional chairs, many special meetings have been held here throughout the years. For many years the baccalaureate sermon for Shelby High School's graduating classes was delivered here.

NEW EDUCATIONAL BUILDING

Webb Chapel and the new educational building were dedicated on October 25, 1953, with Dr. Zeno Wall bringing the message in a 3 p.m. ceremony following the cornerstone laying. Others on the program were the Rev. C. C. Crow and the Rev. John W. Suttle.



Webb Chapel is an example of true craftsmanship and has served the church for small weddings, funerals and midweek prayer services. The chapel was a memorial given by Mrs. O. Max Gardner and her family to her great-grandfather, Rev. J. M. Webb, first pastor.

Mrs. O. Max Gardner and her four children, the late J. W. Gardner and family, Mrs. N. E. Burgess and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Gardner, Mr. and Mrs. O. Max Gardner, Jr. and family, gave the sum of \$25,000 for building Webb chapel which honors their illustrious ancestor who was first pastor of the church. They also donated the electronic organ and pews for the chapel.

Property on which the chapel and educational building stand was acquired for \$47,500 on September 12, 1949 by deed to First Baptist Church recorded in Book 6-F on page 397. Irregular in shape, it fronts 132½ feet on Campbell Street and 188¾ feet on North Washington and was known as the Wellmon property, a site formerly used by circuses and travelling shows. This building accommodates an additional 800 people in Sunday School and provides for a nursery, beginner and adult departments. On completion of this unit the church held adequate space for 2,100 people in Sunday School.

Overseeing the construction and planning for the new building were Lee B. Weathers, chairman; O. Max Gardner, Jr., secretary; O. M. Mull, Wilbur Wilson, Worth Branton, Laura Cornwell, Max Washburn, V. W. Breeze, C. M. King, A. A. Powell, Mrs. George Carpenter, Mrs. Rush Stroup and Mrs. O. Max Gardner, Sr. A goal of \$300,000 was sought for the project with Fields Young, Jr. serving as chairman; C. Rush Hamrick, treasurer; Mary Sue Thompson, secretary; Lowery Austell and Poris Yelton, associate chairmen.

In May, 1952, contracts were awarded A. A. Ramsey & Son at \$220,000 for the new unit; heating and plumbing, J. G. Dudley, Jr., Co., \$28,764; electrical contract to Bronson Electric Co., \$8,260.50.

"Debt Free in '53" became a reality when the church raised \$37,000 on November 30, 1952 in a Sunday service to complete pledges and gifts needed to pay for the building which was under construction.

In the period when the fund was begun in 1950 until the service just mentioned, the church had raised enough money to pay for the new Leath home at a cost of \$22,000; the lot on which the new building was being constructed for \$47,500; and the new education plant itself at \$280,000. Not to be overlooked was the fact that the church budget of \$106,000 was unanimously adopted on the same Sunday when the final payment was being raised.

A few months later \$25,000 was borrowed for furnishings, with a special "Church Love Offering" on the morning of the dedication being taken to pay for all but \$5,000 of this amount.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

The carillon chimes were given by the Earle A. Hamrick family in memory of Mr. Hamrick's father, the Rev. G. P. Hamrick, a former pastor, and Mrs. Hamrick. They were dedicated on November 11, 1945. Among other of the many gifts of the Hamrick family have been the silver communion service and the church bulletin board.

The lovely English made chandeliers in the sanctuary were given in 1953 by Spencer and Martha Eskridge Love (now Mrs. Nathan Ayers) in

memory of the latter's father, Charles L. Eskridge.

The painting "Christ in Gethsemane" on the north wall of the church sanctuary to the right of the pulpit was given by Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Mull when the auditorium was last enlarged in April, 1943.

Seaton A. Washburn, who died in July, 1947, in his will left \$500 to the church which was matched by each of his sons, Charles, George and Max Washburn. The resulting fund of \$2,000 was loaned to worthy ministerial students from Cleveland County and the church appointed John P. Mull, Wilbur Wilson and F. O. Champion to administer the fund.

In January, 1935, Mrs. A. P. Weathers planted shrubbery around the church in memory of her husband.

PARSONAGES

Need for a parsonage was early evident, but it was 1905 when the first one was built north of the present auditorium where the church offices and the primary department are now located. The parcel of land was bought from C. C. Roberts for \$750. Contract for building the parsonage was \$1,700 with outside work \$126.80. Insurance and interest on the building was \$34.20 and the electric light fixtures were purchased for \$84.93.

The second parsonage was constructed at 405 West Marion Street in 1924 at a cost of \$18,358 with the Reverend R. L. Lemons being its first occupant. The lot was purchased a year earlier for the sum of \$5,000. This parsonage was sold in November, 1968 for \$20,000 to Mrs. C. L. Southard following the resignation of Dr. Joseph T. McClain as pastor.

The house for Roland Leath, educational director and later associate pastor, was purchased February 21, 1950, the deed recorded in Book 6-H, at page 387. The lot fronts 100 feet on Worthington Street and is 195 feet deep and was purchased from Lowery Austell and Worth Branton at \$1,500. The residence was erected by A. A. Ramsey and Sons for approximately \$17,500 with a room being added in 1956 at a cost of \$2,200.

BYPU

The Baptist Young Peoples Union (BYPU) was first organized in the church in 1912 by E. A. Ruppe and fourteen years later, in August of 1928, the first adult union was formed with Horace Easom organizer and John A. Liles president.

WOMEN DEACONESSES

Women deaconesses were first elected in 1921. Three men and two women were elected each year for a total board of 15 members. Miss Selma Webb, Mrs. G. P. Hamrick, Mrs. S. A. McMurry, Mrs. C. J. Woodson, Mrs. C. A. Doggett, Mrs. Minnie Huli, Mrs. W. L. Packard, Mrs. M. A. Spangler, Mrs. Robert Doggett, Mrs. Rush Stroup, Mrs. B. T. Falls, Miss Bertha Bostick, Miss Kate Webb, Mrs. B. M. Jarrett, Mrs. Bea Suttle Morris, Miss Laura Cornwell and Mrs. J. D. Eskridge were among those serving in the few years before the practice was discontinued.

It was also in 1921 that the first library appropriation was made in the amount of \$500 with Miss Lucille Nix serving as first librarian. During

the pastorate of Dr. Harlan Harris (1948-54) the church library was established and the Sunday School Board sent a librarian to Shelby to teach a course in library science. The new library was dedicated Sunday, June 21, 1953. Previous to this time the different departments had books and a librarian kept records of them.

Among those who have served as librarians have been Mrs. Howard Rollins, Mrs. Robert Stone, Miss Selma Webb, Miss Aurthine Wells, Miss Pat Hopper, Mrs. Edwin Spangler, Mrs. Fred Swift and Mrs. A. V. Nolan.

Women are first referred to in conference minutes in February, 1880 when three women were named to help solicit subscriptions for the pastor, one of the three being Sue Love. Prior to this, the men of the church evidently handled all business. Named to help with a reception at the same conference were Sisters E. E. Brevard, Lizzie Love and M. M. Durham.

FIRST CHURCH WEDDING

The first white frame church building was the scene on May 28, 1851 of the first big church wedding with bridesmaids and groomsmen in Shelby and, of course, created quite a bit of local interest among the less than 400 townspeople. The ceremony united Susan Ann Love, daughter of James and Susan Ann Putnam Love, and Dr. William Perry Andrews, Cleveland County's first surgeon. The Rev. Wade Hill was the officiating minister and those who "stood up" with the couple at the wedding included, with their spouses, the following:



Dr. and Mrs. Wm. P. Andrews

children of this marriage, namely, Salola McClintock, Quintina Quilliana (who married Beck Quinn), Kansas Love (who married Judge James L. Webb), Eulalia Veltasa (who married Travis Davenport), Samuel Osborne (who married Emma Hamrick), and Flabanica Anifesto Andrews, who

Jane Blanton, who married the Rev. George Milton Webb; Betsy Sallie Love, sister of the bride who married Peter Alexander and later Hosea Hallman; Anonymous Quinn, who married Ellen Irvin; Harve D. K. Cabaniss, who married Aurelia Otterson; Catharine Andrews, sister of the groom, who married Albert Thompson of Rutherford County; and James Andrews, brother of the bridegroom, who married Maria Melton of Rutherford County.

The modern generation will enjoy the names bestowed on the

never married.

During Ku Klux Klan activities, Salola McClintock Andrews was accused of an act he denied doing but found it advisable to leave the state and went to Arkansas where he died in 1873. Dr. Andrews went to Arkansas to bring back the body of his son and inter him in the Shelby cemetery and while there he ate some pecans, the first he had ever seen. He brought several of the nuts back with him and planted them in the yard of his home on South Washington Street, where the D. W. Royster family resides, and today two of the pecan trees still bear nuts and are huge trees.

Dr. Andrews continued his practice until a few years before his death in 1903 but death from tuberculosis claimed Mrs. Andrews several years earlier.

CHURCH BUDGETS, MISSIONS

In 1923 the church adopted its first budget, \$9,560 and in 1924 the amount was increased to \$11,060. By 1925 the budget was \$13,790 and in 1926 it was more than doubled with an amount set at \$30,000. The best year financially for the church was the year 1967-68 when total gifts reached \$286,623.02 and total expenditures were \$252,183, of which \$129,420 was for local expense and \$122,763 for missions. A unified budget was adopted in the fall of 1936 which cut out all special offerings.

Broken down by decades to show church enrollment, Sunday School enrollment, and total contributions at First Baptist, it is also interesting to note at the same time the population of Shelby and Cleveland County in the same years. In 1880 church enrollment was 202 with Sunday School 170 and total contributions \$1,585.76. The population of Shelby was 990; Cleveland County, 16,574.

In 1900 - church enrollment was 338, Sunday School 235 and total contributions, \$1,691.10. Shelby had 1,394 residents, Cleveland County 20,394.

In 1910 - church enrollment, 440; Sunday School, 316; and total contributions, \$14,129.06. Shelby had 3,127 residents and Cleveland County, 29,494.

In 1920 - church membership had reached 702; Sunday School, 624, and total contributions, \$15,467.90. Shelby's population was 3,609, Cleveland County, 34,270.

In 1930 - church membership, 1,304; Sunday School, 1,407, total contributions, \$33,836. Shelby residents numbered 10,789; Cleveland County, 52,305.

In 1940 - church membership, 2,117; Sunday School, 1,637; total contributions, \$41,132.06. Shelby residents numbered 14,037; Cleveland County, 58,055.

In 1950 - church enrollment was 2,463; Sunday School, 1,797; total contributions, \$116,637.27. Shelby had 15,508 residents; Cleveland County, 64,316.

In 1960 - church enrollment was 2,339; Sunday School, 2,225; total contributions, \$241,439. Shelby's population was 17,698; Cleveland

County, 66,048.

Total receipts for the 1967-68 church year amounted to \$286,623.02 with \$129,420 going to local expense and \$122,763 to missions. The latest Shelby interim census in 1965 showed a decline, 16,941, and the county population grew to 69,372.

Seven Baptist colleges and universities, five orphanages, five homes for the aging, five Assemblies and two hospitals are supported through the Co-operative Program Fund. The two hospitals include Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem and the Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans, La. Orphanages are the Baptist Orphanage in Winston-Salem, Greer Home in Chapel Hill, Kennedy Home in Kinston, Odum Home in Pembroke, Wall Home in Wallburg, and Mills Home in Thomasville. A First Baptist member, the late Mrs. C. C. McMurry, Sr. was one of the first five children received at Mills Home when it was founded in 1885.

The five homes for the aging include Rest Haven and Hayes Home in Winston-Salem, the Albemarle Home, the Baptist Home in Yanceyville and the Hamilton Home. The Baptist Assemblies include the Baptist Conference at Fruitland, North Carolina Baptist Assembly at Southport, Camp Carraway RA Camp, Ridgecrest Assembly and the Glorietta, New Mexico Assembly.

Educational units under the program include Gardner-Webb College, Wake Forest University, Mars Hill College, Meredith College, Campbell College, Chowan College and Wingate College.

All of the institutions listed were established through Cooperative Funds but are for the most part self-supporting.

Mission money is divided by missions, educational and benevolent causes sponsored by the Baptist State Convention and Southern Baptist Convention. A breakdown in the past year's contributions shows the following: \$7,000 to special foreign mission projects (the Foreign Mission Board suggests special projects from which the church may choose); \$1,000 toward the salaries of seven (7) foreign missionaries for a total of \$7,000; Lottie Moon offering, \$16,300; Cooperative Program, \$47,400; Baptist Hospital, \$1,750; Baptist Orphanages, \$2,350; American Bible Society, \$250; Gideons, \$300; advanced fund (for various local church projects), \$1,500; Associational missions, \$2,000; radio broadcasts, \$1,850; personal ministries (aid to individual families), \$2,750; Homes for the Aging, \$1,000; Gardner-Webb College, \$14,000; Home Missions project (select a church that is struggling in a pioneer area), \$2,000.

Missionary funds were first mentioned in 1819 at a session of the Broad River Association when a public collection was taken for missionary purposes. Elder Drury Dobbins was appointed by the body to preach a missionary sermon before the body at its next meeting for the furtherance of missionary objects.

A year-end report by church treasurer J. F. Ledford on December 31, 1927 offered the following statement: total receipts \$13,044.73 with 390 having paid pledges in full; 150 paid pledges in part; 68 paid nothing on pledge; 113 paid without pledge; 300 made no pledge and paid nothing!

75th ANNIVERSARY

Beginning June 11 and continuing through June 18, 1922, a program of exercises was observed in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the church. On Sunday, June 11, an address by O. Max Gardner was heard at 11 a.m. with the 8 p.m. address by Dr. W. D. Hubbard of Greensboro, Ala.; June 12, church night with "The History of the Church" given by James L. Webb and the sermon, "The Church in the Community and Association" by the Rev. J. W. Suttle; June 13, Sunday School night featured "The History of the Sunday School" by J. R. Dover.

Former Pastor's night was observed June 14 when J. H. Quinn recognized "Our Former Pastors" and the sermon was delivered by the Rev. L. W. Swope of Richmond, Va. June 15 was laymen's night with a man's fellowship supper and talk on "The Departments of the Church" by B. T. Falls and sermon, "The Layman's Opportunity" by Dr. W. R. Cullom of Wake Forest; June 16, Missionary night with Mrs. S. A. McMurry speaking on "The Work of Our Women" and the Rev. L. R. Pruett of Charlotte on "Taking the South for Christ"; June 18, consecration day with Dr. Charles E. Maddry of Raleigh speaking on "Our Present World Opportunity".

MISSIONARIES

The First Baptist Church has always been interested in missions. Miss Attie Bostick (Mrs. T. J. League), G. P. Bostick and Wade Bostick, daughter and sons of Jane Suttle and Samuel E. Bostick, were members of the Concord Baptist Church near Forest City during their youth but later moved their membership to Shelby First. Together they served a total of 110 years as missionaries to China.

G. P. and Wade Bostick went to China as missionaries in 1900 and remained in the Mission field for 43 years, G. P. Bostick having been buried in China. Mrs. Attie Bostick League, buried in her dark silk embroidered Chinese robe and holding a well-worn Bible in her hands, died at age 89 on May 7, 1965. She also went to China in 1900 but, unlike her brothers, was caught up in World War II and served her last two years in a Japanese concentration camp in occupied China.

When she arrived in Shelby in December, 1943, after a 77-day trip from China she said "I can't tell you how glad I am to be home but it was very sad leaving the Chinese. If I could have continued my work with them I wouldn't have come home."

After her internment in the Japanese camp, the Chinese people sneaked food over the wall to her and after two years she was allowed to come home on the Gripsholm, being one of the first released because of her age, which was 68 at that time.

Her voyage home covered 21,880 miles over the 77-day period and after crossing the equator four times. "Miss Attie" had read the Bible through 91 times. She married T. J. League, a former missionary, at age 72.

Miss Bertha Bostick (Mrs. W. C. Bostick) was the daughter of G. P. Bostick and a long-time member of our church, having served as superintendent of one of the junior departments for many years and church org-

artist for a short time. She was born in Shantung Province, China and spent her childhood there. She died November 26, 1965.

A. C. Dixon went out from the church to a dedicated ministry. Others have been Roy Newton, Frank Garver, Charles H. Durham, Lewis Earle Hancock, Rev. Douglas Eades, Albert Propst, Dr. Eugene Poston, Rev. L. M. Kanipe, Joe Roberts, Rev. W. E. Williamson, Mallory McSwain, Woodrow Wall, Rev. Z. Miller Freeman, Rev. Leon Hollingsworth and Alfred Washburn.

More recently Miss Laura Cornwell served eight years as principal of the elementary division of the Hawaii Baptist Academy, the church dedicating the August 3, 1952 service to her as she prepared to leave for her work. While there the Church gave approximately \$10,000 to the school which was used for books, visual aids, equipment and additional building which aided in the school's becoming accredited. Miss Flossie Grigg spent the 1957-58 school year with Miss Cornwell and taught the first grade at her school.

Jim and Amanda Hardin spent two years in Hawaii as student missionaries, returning in 1968. They were the second couple to be appointed to the US-2 program by the Home Mission Board, a program for college graduates who are willing to serve two years on some mission field. Jim is currently serving with the Army medics in Korea and Amanda returned to Honolulu where she is doing laboratory work until he completes his army service.

On November 30, 1958, Marion D. DuBose of Batesville Baptist Church of Batesville, Indiana was ordained at First Baptist, the Rev. DuBose's great-grandfather, the Rev. George M. Webb having been ordained in this church and his great-great-grandfather, the Rev. James M. Webb, having served as first pastor.

FAMED DIXON FAMILY

The Rev. Amzi Clarence Dixon, a boyhood member of First Baptist who became one of the greatest preachers of his time, and a son of the Rev. Thomas Dixon, pastor of the church, was called to the pastorate of a Baptist Church in Asheville. During his ministry there he held a revival in Clay County. There was but one convert throughout the revival but that one was George W. Truett.

Dr. Truett was one of the greatest Baptists of all times, having lived most of his life in Texas although a native of Clay County. Credited with saving Baylor University in its early days, he was pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, largest Baptist church in the world; president of the Southern Baptist and Texas Baptist Conventions and president of the Baptist World Alliance.

In June, 1942, Dr. Truett held a revival in Shelby, preaching at the church in the morning and to enormous crowds in the evenings at the Armory. This was next to the last revival he ever held and at the following one, in Atlanta, he became ill and had to go home. Thirty-one persons were added to the church roll during his local revival.

Another of Rev. Tom Dixon's sons, Tom Dixon, Jr., was probably the

most colorful and dramatic individual Cleveland county has produced, being a lawyer, preacher, actor, playwright, novelist and motion picture producer. His first book, *The Leopard Spots*, was a tremendous success and was followed by *The Clansman* which was produced on the stage and screen as *The Birth of a Nation* in the first million-dollar movie ever produced. His books, stage plays and film brought him fame and fortune throughout the country, although he died a pauper as the result of poor investments.

Frank Dixon, third son of the Rev. Tom Dixon, was also a dynamic preacher and one of the foremost lecturers of America. The two Dixon daughters inherited the same gifts of writing and speech as their brothers, Mrs. Addie Dixon Thacker having contributed to many religious publications and secular magazines while Mrs. Delia Dixon Carroll became the first woman physician in North Carolina. Dr. Carroll was physician at Meredith College for 35 years.

REVIVALS BRING ADDITIONS

A great many eminent Baptist preachers have filled the pulpit through the years during revivals and special services. Among them have been Dr. George W. Truett of First Baptist Church, Dallas Texas; Dr. M. E. Dodd, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.; Dr. W. F. Powell, First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. Duke McCall, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Dr. L. P. Leavell, president of New Orleans Baptist Seminary; Dr. Ralph Herring, First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem; Dr. C. C. Warren, First Baptist Church, Charlotte; Dr. Ellis Fuller, First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. Finley Gibson, Walnut Street Baptist, Louisville, Ky.

Perhaps the most outstanding revival in the history of the church was held during the depression days of the 1930s. The church took a religious census and held 161 cottage prayer services in various homes of the community. These services in the homes were followed by a series of revival services in the church with Dr. Zeno Wall, pastor, doing the preaching and Horace Easom leading the singing assisted by three choirs. Two hundred and seventeen (217) people united with the church during this revival period.

In June, 1927, Dr. L. R. Scarborough held an open air revival and during the two-week meeting, 81 ministers were recognized as visitors, every church in the Kings Mountain Association cooperated and people came from adjoining counties and Associations as far east as Raleigh and as far west as Asheville. Seventy-four came for baptism and 43 by letter. A free will offering of \$756.50 was presented to Dr. Scarborough.

Evangelist Billy Sunday preached to an overflowing crowd at the church in a visit in 1924. In 1936 and again in 1950 the church membership was inspired by the Rev. Chester Swor of Mississippi, a young evangelist who had been crippled in youth by polio. In June, 1937, ninety-one (91) persons were added to the church roll during a revival led by Dr. Finley Gibson.

DR. WALL CALLED

Stormy days subsided and the church has been united since the coming in 1925 of Dr. Zeno Wall as pastor. Before coming to Shelby, Dr. Wall received an anonymous letter warning him not to go to Shelby because the members of the church there ran off their ministers. The average tenure of ministry before Dr. Wall's coming was three years with the shortest term of any pastor being that of the Rev. J. A. White who served from March 15, 1880 to August 6, 1880, less than five months.

When asked how he planned to bring the church membership back together when he assumed the pastorate, after the church's not so harmonious times, Dr. Wall is said to have casually replied "We will become united through Christian love."

The church membership at the beginning of Dr. Wall's ministry in 1925 was 763. During his pastorate of twenty-two years there were 3,579 members added to the church roll. The biggest number of additions in any one year was 254 in 1932 which was a depression year.

Tent revivals were popular in this era and on one occasion Dr. Wall and Rev. Rush Padgett conducted a highly successful three-week tent revival beginning May 23, 1926 under a large tent on South LaFayette Street. On June 13, the last night of the preaching series, "a special prayer for rain was answered and bountiful crops resulted."

On Wednesday evening, December 17, 1947, Dr. Wall informed the church he had been elected to the general superintendency of the N. C. Baptist Orphanage and would move to Thomasville soon. Phrasing his announcement, "The Lord is opening a new door for us and is saying 'enter,'" he told the prayer service congregation that he and Mrs. Wall would come back in a few years, build a little home and retire in his beloved Shelby. He preached his last sermon as pastor on Sunday, January 25, 1948, using as his subject "The Triumphant Christ."

Although Dr. Wall's long ministry of 22 years was fruitful and the church realized some of its greatest achievements, his successor, Harlan Harris, probably initiated more programs of lasting emphasis on the congregation in his five years as pastor than any other before or after him.

Extremely popular with the young people, he endeared many through his Young Life Program which continues today and through which many young people have been won to Christ. He also brought the first dedication service for small children to the church in December, 1948, with nine children and their parents present for the first service. This service, however, was discontinued after his ministry even though it had been well received by young married couples.

It was also under the Rev. Harris' pastorate that the weekly Informer was begun, deacons inaugurated their monthly visitation program (April, 1949), the church auditorium was redecorated, the first of weekly evening broadcasts over WOHS-FM (September 4, 1949) was begun, the new educational building was built and paid for, and a residence was built for Roland Leath, educational and music director. The Fisherman's Club was first organized during his ministry and a church library was estab-

lished.

Rev. Harris resigned November 30, 1953 to accept a call to First Baptist Church of Plainview, Texas.

Dr. and Mrs. Wall returned to Shelby in August, 1950 and it was on September 16, 1951 that Dr. Wall was elected pastor emeritus of the church, a post he held until his death on September 12, 1967. Dr. and Mrs. Wall were honored in a special service by the church on November 18, 1951.

Beginning October, 1958, the church paid Dr. Wall \$100 each month as pastor emeritus, presenting him first with a check for \$600 which was retroactive six months. On receipt of his check he immediately turned over \$60 as his tithe.

CONVENTION SETTING

The North Carolina State Baptist Convention has met four times in the church — in 1875, 1890, 1913 and 1929. The church has furnished two presidents of the State Convention: Dr. Wall and the Rev. Needham B. Cobb, who was eighth pastor of this church.

A few weeks prior to the November, 1929 State Baptist Convention session in Shelby, a disastrous fire had completely destroyed the Cleveland Springs hotel where many of the delegates were to be assigned. Tall columns of the famed hotel stand on the site east of Shelby today, continuing to remind Clevelanders of the resort which drew patrons from many states to seek the healthful sulphur and lithia waters from springs on the hotel grounds. Citizens of all denominations cooperated with the Baptists by opening their homes to more than 500 of the 1,000 delegates who attended while an improvised cafe was provided by the Woman's Missionary Society of the church to augment the other eating places in the city.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

On completion of expanded facilities following the 1928-29 building program, First Baptist conducted its first Vacation Bible School, a new program not only for our church but a new program in this area.

The first Bible school enrolled 425 for a three-week session in the summer of 1929, those participating coming from all denominations although the program was designed primarily for this church. Defined as "a happy time with spiritual interest that will cause the child to love the church," today's Vacation Bible Schools continue to attract as many as 400 children with approximately 100 adult and youth workers directing activities. Those participating in what is now an annual one-week session include children from three-year old beginners to 14-year teenagers, although records reveal that the Bible School's greatest appeal is among the age eight and under. A typical day's program includes assembly in the main sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. after which the children go to their departments where lessons are done in their Bible workbooks, scripture is memorized, character stories told, handicraft and creative projects are carried out.

CHURCH SECRETARIES

Miss Ruth Moss, a graduate of Limestone College, entered upon her duties January 1, 1935, as church secretary to post church books and enlist members to give regularly and systematically to the support of the church, becoming the first to hold the newly created full-time position as church secretary. Later married to C. B. Easterling, she is now private secretary to I. D. Blumenthal of Radiator Specialty Company in Charlotte.

Succeeding Mrs. Easterling on December 5, 1939, was Miss Mabel Ruth Harrell of Edenton, now Mrs. John Senterfitt, Jr. of Ocala, Fla. Mrs. Senterfitt has been teaching high school English for the past few years.

Miss Beverly Clark (Mrs. O. V. Hamrick, Jr.) succeeded Miss Harrell in September 1941, continuing in her duties through 1946.

Miss Mary Sue Thompson has served capably and efficiently as secretary since 1947.

CHURCH KINDERGARTEN

The church sponsored a kindergarten beginning in the fall of 1958 and was directed by Miss Flossie Grigg with Mrs. Nora Cornwell Harris assisting. The kindergarten continued for three years and Miss Laura Cornwell joined Miss Grigg and Mrs. Harris for the third year of operation. Hours of the project were 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Mondays through Fridays.

WORLD WAR II HEROES

During World War II (1941-45) many members of the First Baptist Church and its congregation answered the call to patriotic duty and served in all branches of the country's service. Nine of those heroes failed to return, giving their lives for their country.

In memory of the fallen nine heroes, the ginkgo trees planted on the west side of the church serve as a constant reminder of their sacrifice. These trees were planted in a dedicatory service on December 7, 1947.

Those who lost their lives were: Herbert Branton, George Loris Dover, Grady E. Dover, Elvis Hamrick, Earl R. Hicks, Jr., Elmer Propst, Garnet Tolbert, Hassell Wall and Earl Yarborough.

On Wednesday evening, June 7, 1944, the day after the Allies invaded Normandy and France, our people came together at the hour of prayer around 700 strong with President Hoyt Blackwell of Mars Hill College delivering the message. The extraordinary thing about the attendance was that the church membership understood the meeting would follow the invasion and they came without prior notice or reminder.

It was recorded that "This was a mountain top experience in the history of our church - one that we can never forget." At the time the church had 252 members in the service and an effort was made to get two at the hour of prayer for every serviceman away. The goal, therefore, was 504 but over 700 came. Dr. Wall and Director of Education and Music Horace Easom rejoiced over the evidence of concern.

Although 31 Cleveland County soldiers paid the supreme sacrifice of the approximately 700 who served in World War I (1917-19), no mem-

ber of the church was a casualty. The casualty list for World War II in the county numbered 192 out of 6,504 courageous men and women who served.

On Sunday, May 26, 1946 the church paid tribute to the 340 members of the church who answered the call to the colors during World War II. Special services were conducted by the pastor, Dr. Zeno Wall, whose topic was "A Grateful Man" and a special tribute was given to the nine who paid the supreme sacrifice. All service men and their families were invited to a reception given by the church on Friday evening, June 7, 1946 in their honor.

A Union Memorial Service for those who lost their lives in World Wars I and II was held in the church on Sunday evening, November 19, 1946 under sponsorship of the Legion Auxiliary. All churches in the community participated.

It was a practice of the church during World War II to fete servicemen who were in town over the weekend at Sunday dinner at one of the local eating places.

At the time of this printing there had been no casualties among church members in the Korean or Vietnam conflicts.

CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Cleveland County furnished 2,035 troops when the county population was only 12,384 during the Civil War, 1861-65, these troops comprising 14 companies and 18 Captains.

Among the Confederate soldiers who were members of First Baptist Church at some time were W. S. Alexander, Capt. J. D. Andrews, William Archer, T. Kennedy Barnett, J. Calvin Beam, Capt. W. Posey Beam, S. E. Bostic, William Cabaniss, Marcus L. Carroll, Capt. William S. Corbett, William Dellinger, Cpl. Minor W. Doggett, Cpl. L. N. Durham, R. J. Durham, R. S. Durham, Harrison Eskridge, Lt. J. Zemri Falls, Capt. Oliver P. Gardner, J. Mack Gillespie, Marshall Newton Hamrick, Sidney Hamrick, Thomas Hamrick, Phillip Hoke, Major Jesse Jenkins, J. H. Kendrick, Lt. Thomas D. Lattimore, Lt. Ben F. Logan, T. M. Love, William P. Love, Sgt. Robert B. McBrayer, G. R. Moore, L. A. Parker, Wiley S. Pruett, J. Randall, Noah Ross, Adam Spake, Charles Beattie Suttle, D. B. F. Suttle, Lt. Dobb D. Suttle, John W. Sullivan, David C. Webb, Lorenzo Dow Webb, John S. Wray, J. Alexander Wray, William A. Wray, George W. Young. All were privates except where rank was indicated.

SPANISH AMERICAN VETERANS

Cleveland County also furnished more than 100 men in the Spanish American war of 1898, most of these serving in Company G, First North Carolina Volunteers. Those who served from our church included Col. J. T. Gardner, Hugh Logan, Thomas W. Mettagg and Upton S. Alexander.

SCHOOL SUPPORT

The First Baptist Church sponsored the Shelby Female College which, according to the history of the Kings Mountain Association, was being erected in 1878 and followed the Roberts Female Seminary conceived in

1863 during Rev. Tillman Gaines' pastorate (1863-64). Largely through the efforts of Dr. W. A. Nelson, pastor from 1880-1883, with the cooperation of Elder R. D. Mallary, who served as the college's president for several years, the school got off to a good beginning. Minutes of the Kings Mountain Association in 1882 announced that "the Shelby Baptist Church had a first-class female college in operation." The college was under the management of Elder R. D. Mallary. Mallary succeeded Dr. Nelson as church pastor in 1883 and later was president of Shorter College of Rome, Georgia.

Because of the financial burden of supporting the college, the institution was not destined to last long and in 1885 Associational minutes record that the "Shelby Church and other churches and individuals have supported the female college for three years and now the committee asks that the Association adopt it as their own daughter." Rev. Mallary resigned in 1887 and the college was not mentioned in the reports of the Association after 1888.

As early as 1874 the Association asked for greater interest in education and the following schools were listed as in operation: one in Shelby "that is in every way worthy of your patron, Elder W. W. Gwin, principal; secondly, Bridges' Academy, which asks a liberal share of your patronage; thirdly, Burnt Chimneys, which calls for her share." Also, the Association asked all efforts to endow Wake Forest College, noting: "Rushing students into the pulpit unprepared for the work is the leading cause of errors being made by our ministers. It is an obstacle which impeded the progress of our denomination."

Still earlier, in 1867, the Broad River Association had asked churches to raise a permanent endowment for Furman University to educate young men for the ministry. The Logan history reads: "Our Baptist people within the bounds of the Broad River Association had, at that time, only began to appreciate the advantages and blessings resulting from ministerial education. Indeed a great number of the old fathers held that human learning acquired at Theological schools was not at all necessary in the qualification of a minister of the Gospel."

The N. C. Baptists opened their own female university at Raleigh, the Baptist Female University, in September, 1899, changing the name to the Baptist University for Women in 1905 and to Meredith College in 1909.

The church has a history of aid to Boiling Springs High School, later Boiling Springs College and now Gardner-Webb College. The School had its beginning at the 1903 Kings Mountain Association meeting although the ground-breaking ceremony at the school site was not until early in the spring of 1907. In July, 1907, J. D. Huggins was chosen principal of the school and authorized to select a faculty.

In a resolution adopted October 18, 1908, members of First Baptist were asked to assume separately and individually such financial assistance as each may have felt to Boiling Springs High School. The church itself had been asked previously to assist financially but the latter resolution was reached.

In March, 1921, the church agreed to pay the amount of \$10 per

member to Boiling Springs High School to meet incidental expenses of the school and throughout the years the church paid tuitions of deserving ministerial students to attend the school.

Dr. Zeno Wall, at the Association meeting in 1926, recommended that the school become a junior college in the scholastic year 1927-28, it having become evident that the school could not compete with the tax-supported state high school system. The fall of 1929 saw the school open for the first time with one grade above the high school level.

The beginning, then, of Boiling Springs Junior College and the Great Depression were simultaneous. Economy became a necessity and churches were asked to include the fledgling college in their budgets. One church went beyond that call when First Baptist of Shelby allowed its pastor, Dr. Wall, to also serve as the college's president following the resignation early in 1930 of James B. Davis. Dr. Wall accepted the presidency on May 5, 1930 and continued in his dual role as pastor-president until March, 1932 . . . occupying his college position without pay.

Contributions were made regularly to the school from its beginning by the Kings Mountain, Sandy Run and Gaston Associations, the latter until 1931. However, when the college sought accreditation from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction through the N. C. College Conference, the news was that a lot of money would be needed. The trustees managed to hurdle financial barriers in many critical periods during the depression and it was not until 1941 that big plans were laid to raise money. They turned to Horace Easom, director of religious education and music at First Baptist and it was through his meticulous, calculating planning that the college was able to get on its feet.

Easom turned to First Baptist members and recruited Mal Spangler to help him in a \$100,000 campaign with A. W. McMurry to act as chairman of the steering committee and C. Rush Hamrick to be his associate chairman. Early in the summer of 1942, following an earlier gift of \$1,000, former Governor O. Max Gardner gave the college a gift of \$10,000 to make available 25 scholarships to young men and women in the area - and it was then that he began to pour his money and devote his energies and time along with others to guide and strengthen the college. June 15, 1942, the college name was changed to Gardner-Webb College, honoring the name of its benefactor and his wife, Mrs. Fay Webb Gardner, and their families.

An ambitious campaign was launched in the fall of 1943 with Horace Easom and Mal Spangler again elected co-chairmen, except this time they chose Mrs. Rush Stroup to serve with them. Guy H. Roberts was named secretary and treasurer of what was known as the Memorial Fund Enlargement Campaign, an effort that was to eventually raise \$750,000.

First Baptist came into the picture strong on May 5, 1947 when the deacons recommended that the church raise \$50,000 to be divided equally between Gardner-Webb and Wake Forest. This offering was received on May 25.

In 1947 the Baptist State Convention accepted Gardner-Webb into the Baptist family of colleges - on condition that a \$250,000 endowment

fund be realized. Again, through the talents of Horace Easom and Ben C. Fisher, the fund was subscribed and President Phil Elliott was able to announce to the convention in November, 1947 that the one-quarter million dollars for endowment, plus the three-quarters of a million to be spent on the college plant had been raised.

The college then became the responsibility of the N. C. State Baptist Convention, passing from the Kings Mountain and Sandy Run Associations to the Convention which would thereafter allot a portion of its educational funds to the support of the college and would approve its trustees. The property - the buildings, equipment and campus - continue to be owned jointly by the two Associations.

First Baptist went to bat again for the local college in 1959-60 when a fund-raising campaign for \$550,000 was undertaken with Paris Yelton serving as general chairman and O. Max Gardner, Jr., honorary chairman. Young Gardner at the time was confined to bed with multiple sclerosis, a disease which was to claim his life shortly afterwards (Nov. 10, 1961).

R. Patrick Spangler has served as national general chairman of the "Decade of Advance to Assure the Extra Dimension" initiated in 1964 to raise \$1,125,000. To date \$2,722,954.76 has been raised. Others from our church who took leadership areas in the campaign were: Robert R. Forney, national leadership gifts chairman; Hoyt Bailey, area co-chairman; C Rush Hamrick, Jr., Howard Rollins and J. L. Suttle, Jr., special gifts; Lloyd Bost, canvass chairman.

First Baptist members have been generous in their gifts for the erection of buildings and today the campus is dotted with edifices bearing their names. From the Gardner family have come the James Webb Gardner Memorial Dormitory (known as Decker Hall), the Webb Administration Building and the O. Max Gardner Memorial Fine Arts Building. Stroup Dormitory is a gift of Mrs. Rush Stroup; the John R. Dover Memorial Library, a gift of the families of the late industrialist; the Charles I. Dover campus center named in honor of Charles I. Dover; Bost Physical Education Building and swimming pool in honor of L. C. Bost and in memory of Jean Bost Gardner, from the family of L. C. Bost; the Ernest W. Spangler Memorial Stadium in memory of E. W. Spangler and in honor of Mrs. Verna Patrick Spangler by R. Patrick and Earl Spangler; the S. A. Washburn building which was first used as a library; the S. S. Royster Memorial Hospital, gift of the families of Ralph and D. W. Royster; the V. F. Hamrick field house in memory of L. S. Hamrick and in honor of V. F. Hamrick.

Also, the Lutz-Yelton Hall, made possible by the families of Mr. and Mrs. J. Ray Lutz, Mr. and Mrs. Paris Yelton, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Lutz, Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Champion, Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Lutz, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Webb Lutz, Mr. and Mrs. H. Joe Hamrick, Mr. and Mrs. Jack L. Lutz, Dr. and Mrs. Richard F. Bowling, Robert W. Yelton, Charles W. Mauney, Mr. and Mrs. Gary H. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. H. Vincent Carpenter, Don L. Yelton, Mr. and Mrs. William D. Lutz, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Henderson and Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Pernell.

Other gifts include the Suttle Tennis Courts, donated by Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Suttle, Jr.; the Chemistry lecture room by Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mea-

cham; College Post Office by Jack Ramsey in memory of his father, A. A. Ramsey; Dr. and Mrs. Charles G. Lampley, Jr., naming of a faculty office; endowed scholarships by the D. W. Royster family, by Thomas Hamrick and Roland Hamrick, Jr., and the George Blanton family.

Completed in 1968 on the new entrance to the campus was the Suttle-Wall Tower, a memorial to Dr. Zeno Wall and Joseph Linton Suttle, given by Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Suttle, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Lutz.

On Christian Education day each year at the church, members may designate their special offerings to any other college under the Cooperative program but the remainder goes to Gardner-Webb. The 1968 special offering was \$14,000 to the local college.

Gardner-Webb begins its third academic year in the fall of '69 and the first graduates of the four-year institution will receive degrees in May, 1971.

Gardner-Webb's board of trustees and board of advisors voted unanimously in a joint session in May, 1969 to enter a capital fund campaign early in the year 1970 to put over a successful four-year program.

Dr. Eugene Poston, a former member of First Baptist, was named president of Gardner-Webb in 1961 after having served for two years as head of the college's Department of Religion. Graduate of Shelby High School, he is also a graduate of Gardner-Webb and Wake Forest University and his post-graduate study included his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in theology from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Before going into college work Dr. Poston served in pastorates in Kentucky, Georgia and North Carolina between the years 1943 and 1958 and taught in the seminary extension program in Wilmington for two years while serving as pastor of Wallace Baptist Church. Active in the Scouting program since age 12, he attained the Eagle rank and has served as a Scoutmaster, in the adult leadership program and is currently director of church relations in the Piedmont Scout Council. Also, in addition to planning and directing the God and Country Awards program he conducts the summer chaplain program at Schiele Boy Scout Reservation.

Among those from our church who have served on the Gardner-Webb board of trustees include: Lloyd C. Bost, Mrs. C. Robert Doggett, Charles I. Dover, J. R. Dover, Jr., Horace Easom, James L. Eskridge, B. T. Falls, J. D. Fitz, Rev. Z. Miller Freeman, J. W. Gardner, Honorable O. Max Gardner, Mrs. O. Max Gardner, O. Max Gardner, Jr., Ralph W. Gardner, A. V. Hamrick, C. Rush Hamrick, Earle A. Hamrick, Julian W. Hamrick, Dr. T. G. Hamrick, J. Ollie Harris, Maurice Hendrick, L. S. Hamrick, S. H. Hamrick, Rev. C. A. Jenkins, A. W. McMurry, R. L. Weathers, A. C. Lovelace, Wyan Washburn.

Also, W. Hill Hudson, J. Y. Irvin, Rev. John E. Lawrence, Mrs. S. A. McMurry, O. M. Mull, Dr. Hubert S. Plaster, Aaron B. Quinn, J. H. Quinn, Guy H. Roberts, Howard Rollins, D. W. Royster, Mal A. Spangler, R. Patrick Spangler, Mrs. Rush Stroup, J. L. Suttle, Jr., Mrs. John Wacaster, Dr. Zeno Wall, George Washburn, Lee B. Weathers, Judge E. Y. Webb, Miss

Selma Webb, Mrs. Paris L. Yelton and Carlos Young.

First of the Baptist Colleges was Wake Forest Institute before it became Wake Forest College and then University. The school dates back to August 28, 1832 when the Convention purchased 615 acres of land for \$2,000 in the little town of Wake Forest, chosen for its central location and general convenience to all Baptists over the state. Samuel Wait became its first president when classes began in 1834 and since that date it has been the dignified liberal arts, law, medical and religious school of the Baptists. The campus was moved to Winston-Salem after the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation offered in 1946 the sum of \$350,000 annually in income and perpetuity to the college, this amount increased in 1955 to \$500,000 annually. The first session on the new campus was the summer session of June, 1956 and the first regular fall session followed on September 11, 1956. The Reynolds family has given several challenge gifts and other gifts since.

O. M. Mull, Sunday School superintendent at First Baptist for many years, teacher of the O. M. Mull Bible Class from 1934 for more than 20 years, and one of the church stalwarts for more than 50 years, played a dramatic role in the establishment of the Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest and the University's subsequent move from Wake Forest to Winston-Salem. A portrait of Mull, who graduated Magna Cum Laude from Wake Forest in 1902 and received his L.L.B. in 1903, hangs in the Bowman Gray School of Medicine today.



O. M. Mull

While serving in the state legislature in 1937, Mull was appointed a member of the committee to investigate and report on the advisability of the state establishing a four-year, degree granting medical school. At that time the state was emerging from the financial depression and panic of the early 1930s and state officials advised it was not practical for the state to finance a state medical school at that time.

Mull requested the committee to give him a month to find funds for the school and it was then he contacted Robert M. Haynes of Winston-Salem who suggested the Bowman Gray Foundation be contacted. Foundation trustees were impressed but stipulated the medical school must be located in Winston-Salem, a point the legislative committee turned down in favor of locating the facility in Chapel Hill. Mull then turned to Dr Thurman Kitchen, Wake Forest president, and Dr. C. C. Carpenter, dean of its medical school, and in a conference on August 2, 1939

between the three and James A. Gray, Bowman Gray, Jr. and Gordon Gray it was arranged that financial resources of the Bowman Gray Foundation would be made available for the Wake Forest Medical School which would be moved to Winston-Salem and expanded into a four-year medical school. The medical school moved and began operation in Winston-Salem in 1942.

Mull then led the way for obtaining a part or all of the income from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation for Wake Forest College, the income at that time going to the Health Department of the State. The Baptist State Convention meeting in Greensboro in July, 1946 approved the Foundation support and move to Winston-Salem. Mull was elected chairman of the planning and building committee which oversaw the initial erection of 14 buildings, costing more than \$20 million. An O. M. Mull research scholarship is given by the Reynolds family.

In early days churches recommended members to branches of higher learning, particularly those who wanted to enter the ministry. A typical recommendation came during a prayer meeting at First Baptist on August 9, 1905 when T. F. Limerick asked for a recommendation to the Educational Board of Wake Forest College. Granted, O. M. Mull, J. H. Quinn and C. C. Roberts were appointed to draft the recommendation and it was submitted and approved at the August 23 meeting as follows: "This certifies that brother Frank Limerick is a member of the Shelby Baptist Church in good standing and held by us in high esteem, and believing him to have been called of God to the work of the gospel ministry we hereby give him our entire and cordial approbation in the improvement of his gifts by preaching the gospel as providence may afford him an opportunity, praying the great head of the church to endow him with all needful grace and crown his labors with abundant success." On entering Wake Forest, Limerick changed to law and served as a judge until his death.

As a matter of interest, it may be noted here that Shelby's first college graduates, known as the "Four Horsemen", were all members of First Baptist Church. They were George Blanton, banker and industrialist; Rev. Charles Durham, distinguished Baptist minister; E. Y. Webb, Congressman and Federal Judge; and Dr. E. B. Lattimore, physician, all members of the 1893 graduating class at Wake Forest College.

Several members of First Baptist have served on boards of trustees of the various Baptist Schools in addition to Gardner-Webb. Those who have served on the Wake Forest board include: Jesse Jenkins, 1874-1889; E. Y. Webb, 1897-1946; C. Rush Hamrick, 1941-45 and 1961-64; O. M. Mull, 1942-43, 1946-49, 1953-56, 1958-61; Horace Easom, 1947-50; Dr. John Hamrick, 1951-54 and 1967-70; Mrs. Rush Stroup, 1954-57; O. V. Hamrick, January to November, 1960; and Mrs. Earl Meacham, 1963-66.

Four have served on the Mars Hill board of trustees, namely M. W. Hamrick, 1917 - 23; H. Fields Young, 1928 - 36; Mrs. Rush Stroup, 1936-48; Rev. John Lawrence, 1960-64.

Serving on the Meredith College board have been: O. Max Gardner,

Jr., 1946-50; and Henry B. Edwards, 1937-40 and 1942-45.

H. Fields Young, Jr. is serving a six-year term, 1964-70, on the board of Wingate College and Carlos Young is a member of the board, 1967-72, of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Among those who have served on the board of Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem were Dr. Zeno Wall, 1923-31; O. Max Gardner, 1926; O. M. Mull, 1939-44; and C. Rush Hamrick, 1945-59.

100th ANNIVERSARY

Between June 15-22, 1947, First Baptist celebrated its 100th anniversary with a "Religious Festival" when church membership showed more than 2,500; Sunday School enrollment was 1,600; Training Union enrollment, 350; WMU, about 600; and offerings over the previous year, \$100,000.

A centennial celebration committee appointed by Dr. Wall included W. L. Angel, chairman of the board of deacons; O. M. Mull, chairman of the finance committee; George Blanton, chairman of the board of trustees; Mrs. Fred Swift, president of WMU; and Judge E. Y. Webb, grandson of the first pastor of the church.

An attractive program numbering 24 pages outlined the centennial celebration and contained many pictures of church officials and organizations. Program personalities included Dr. Ellis A. Fuller, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Mrs. J. M. Dawson of Washington, D. C.; Dr. M. T. Rankin, secretary of the Foreign Mission Board; Dr. J. B. Lawrence, secretary of the Home Mission Board; Dr. W. F. Powell, pastor of First Baptist Church of Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. Louie D. Newton, pastor of Druid Hills Baptist Church of Atlanta and president of the Southern Baptist Convention; Dr. Duke K. McCall, secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention; Dr. Charles H. Durham, Baptist leader and former member; and Dr. Sankey L. Blanton, dean of the School of Religion of Wake Forest University.

BULLETINS - MICROFILMING

The church news bulletin, *The Informer*, was first sent to every family in the church on February 24, 1949, and has been published weekly since that date.

Many valuable minutes, early church rolls, biographies of pastors and various other articles of the church relating information up to 1963 were microfilmed in October, 1963 and placed in the information center at Dover Memorial Library at Gardner-Webb College. This central information center is for persons seeking historical information about the Kings Mountain Baptist Association and its 70 churches as well as serving a valuable service to churches for safekeeping of their valuable records.

The *Biblical Recorder* was the only religious paper in the South that continued publication during the Civil War and now continues to speak for Southern Baptists. Editor during the Civil War was J. D. Hufham, who later became pastor of this church.

Founded June 29, 1835, *The Recorder* was first edited by Thomas

Meredith, for whom Meredith College is named. The pamphlet has been a constant source of religious refreshment to the Baptists of North Carolina.

In February, 1969, the church voted to send *The Recorder* to each family, college student and to each serviceman.

A First Baptist pastor, Rev. T. R. Gaines, had the distinction of editing the first church paper published in North Carolina in 1865. Entitled "The Baptist Church and Sunday School Messenger", the pamphlet, published monthly, was devoted to the Baptist cause and Sabbath School interests but lasted only six months for lack of patronage.

In 1881 a committee from the Kings Mountain Association recommended the *Biblical Recorder* as the medium best calculated to defend the Baptist faith and practices as a denomination and requested that the *Recorder* be placed with every family in the Association.

NEW PROGRAMS

On January 15, 1964, Rev. John Lawrence presented a request from the Cleveland Association of Governmental Officials (CAGO) in which this local body sought to apply for funds from the North Carolina Fund to establish a program of experimentation in improving conditions of the less fortunate citizens of this area. This was one of the first anti-poverty agencies in the state and a forerunner of other federal anti-poverty programs to be implemented in the county. The request for endorsement of this program was approved.

Rev. Lawrence also reported that the Human Relations Council, of which he was chairman, was arranging an integrated worship service for the evening of February 9, 1964, Race Relations Sunday throughout America, and that the Cleveland County Ministerial Association had voted the worship service be held that night. The First Baptist auditorium was offered for the service, which was to become the first annual Community Worship Service in which all denominations participated. Dr. F. Eppling Reinartz, president of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Columbia, S. C., was guest minister. The meeting was fully integrated with one layman estimating the audience was 65 percent white and 35 percent Negro.

Feeling a definite need for church membership training, the constitution and bylaws were changed in April, 1964. Those coming upon profession of faith as candidates for baptism are required to attend four classes in which they will be instructed in the doctrines of the church and informed as to the various organizational and stewardship opportunities. Those coming from a church of another denomination, if that denomination practices a form of baptism other than immersion, are requested to attend the classes and instructions and on completion will be approved for membership and immersion. If immersion is practiced or if the person comes from a Baptist Church in the Southern Baptist Convention, he will be invited to attend the classes and will be received or baptised as the case renders itself. Those coming from a Baptist Church not affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention or those coming for reinstatement are requested to attend the four classes and instruction.

EXTENSION WORK

In addition to carrying on extension work at the local hospital and at the county home before it was closed in 1967, First Baptist has aided in the organization of many new churches. Among these are Second Baptist, Highland, King's Chapel (now Churchill Drive), Westview, Calvary and Peach Street.

The church gave \$5,007.43 to Elizabeth Baptist Church after it was burned in December, 1954 and has given to many other churches, among them, in addition to those already mentioned, being Ramseur Baptist Church, Ellis Memorial Baptist, Pleasant Ridge, Putnam Memorial, Light Oak, Midview Baptist, Washington Baptist, Macedonia Baptist, Fruitland, Mull's Chapel, and others.

The church had purchased on March 11, 1901 for the sum of \$75 a lot located "in the Southwest square of the town of Shelby" from Shelby Cotton Mill on which a Baptist Chapel was erected. When the Second Baptist Church organization was underway the First Baptist Church on October 14, 1908 offered to lease the chapel for the term of one year and church members were invited to participate in the organization of the Second Baptist on Sunday, October 18, 1908. On February, 1909, First Baptist voted that the chapel building be donated to the new church, granting permission to move it to the new site selected by the church. On April 21, 1909 the church instructed T. D. Lattimore, M. N. Hamrick and J. S. Wray, deacons, to sell to Shelby Cotton Mill for the sum of \$75 the vacant lot from which the chapel had been moved.

With a history for helping others, minutes show that in May, 1927, the church sent several boxes of clothing and supplies to flood sufferers in the Mississippi valley and the following month sent two more boxes and \$90. White Christmas is an annual event and many indigent families in the community benefit from this effort to collect food.

In 1954, deacons voted to have two deacons visit the sick and two visit new members each month. At the same time, they raised the monthly pay to Baptist orphanages to \$100 monthly and brought the welfare fund up to \$100 per month.

ROLLS REVIEWED

Although the church had practiced many years ago keeping its membership roll active, the custom had not been followed for some time until January 11, 1956 when 133 names were stricken from the roll of non-resident members who had not attended in five years. This practice continues today when the list is reviewed once a year in accordance with the constitution.

CHURCH PASTORS

Of the 32 ministers who have served as pastors of First Baptist Church, many had followed other occupations prior to becoming servants of the Lord. Church records reveal that their diversified occupations had included legislators, educators, teachers, newspaper editors and publishers, clerk of court, lawyer, college presidents, farmers, missionaries and ath-

letes. Only one bachelor pastor has ever been called by the church; one other had been a Catholic priest and was a German by birth.

They are:

J. M. Webb	1847-1849	J. L. Sproles	1892-1894
M. C. Barnette	1850, 1866-1870	J. D. Hufham	1894-1896
Wade Hill	1851, 1860, 1872-75	R. F. Tredway	1897-1902
A. J. Cansler	1853-1856	W. D. Hubbard	1903-1904
Thomas Dixon	1857-1859	M. E. Parrish	1904-1908
E. A. Crawley	1861-63, 1864-65	C. A. Jenkins	1908-1911
T. R. Gaines	1863-1864	L. W. Swope	1912-1916
Needham B. Cobb	1870-1872	Lee M. White	1917-1918
A. L. Stough	1875-1879	J. Marcus Kester	1919-1922
J. A. White	1880	Robert L. Lemons	1923-1925
W. A. Nelson	1880-1883	Zeno Wall	1925-1948
R. D. Mallary	1883, 1885, 1887	Harlan Harris	1948-1953
W. B. Bussey	1884-1885	John E. Lawrence	1954-1964
W. H. Strickland	1885-1887	Forrest Feezor-Interim	1964-1965
J. M. McManaway	1887-1890	Joseph T. McClain	1965-1968
G. P. Hamrick	1890-1892	Gene L. Watterson	1969-

Fourteen of the pastors were natives of North Carolina, five of South Carolina, two of Virginia, two of Alabama and one each from Georgia, West Virginia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Missouri, Oregon, England, Germany and Oklahoma.

REV. C. O. GREENE

First Baptist congregations have come to love the Rev. C. O. Greene as he has served as supply pastor in the pulpit many times, more recently since the resignation of Dr. Joe McClain in October, 1968 until his successor was named. Rev. Greene has served as Superintendent of Missions in the Kings Mountain Association for nearly 10 years and prior to his present position was pastor for four years of Stough Memorial Baptist Church (named for former pastor, A. L. Stough) in Pineville; seven years as pastor of Gary Baptist Church; and held pastorates in Cleveland County at New Bethel, Double Shoals and Lawndale Baptist Churches.

50 and 60-YEAR MEMBERSHIPS

Many in today's congregations hold long-time memberships in the church. Among those with 60 or more years as members are Miss Ollie Hamrick (who heads the list with 78 years), Mrs. E. B. Lattimore, Mrs. Paul Webb, Mrs. Mayme Wray Webb, Mrs. Nelson Lattimore, Miss Agnes McBrayer, V. F. Hamrick, Mrs. George Blanton, Sr., Mrs. Zeb Mauney, Miss Ruby McBrayer, Mrs. Dewitt Quinn, Mrs. Pansy B. Fetzer, Mrs. Olan Hamrick, Miss Lottie May Hendrick, A. V. Hamrick, Miss Lucille Nix, Mrs. Grady Lovelace, George Washburn, Mrs. D. W. Royster, Harry Woodson, Miss Flossie Grigg, Mrs. Charles Eskridge, Sr., Mrs. Maggie Alexander and Miss Mary Nelson Moore.

Among those whose memberships span 50 years are Mrs. J. W. Bran-

ton, Mrs. P. F. Grigg, Mrs. Rush Hamrick, Sr., Cline Hendrick, Mrs. Fred Costner, Willis McMurry, Mrs. O. V. Hamrick, Sr., Perry Sellers, Miss Lucy Hamrick, Hackett Wilson, Miss Avie Weathers, Mrs. Tom Moore, Miss Bessie McBrayer, Mrs. Helen Casstevens, Tilden Falls, Mrs. C. Oren Hamrick, Mrs. Hubbard Hamrick, Mrs. Maurice Weathers, J. G. Dudley, Jr., Mrs. Jap Suttle, Mrs. Cecil Gilliatt, Mrs. Gerald Morgan, Mrs. Charles Austell, Miss Laura Cornwell, Mrs. A. V. Nolan, Mrs. Paul Hawkins, Mrs. Clyde Moore, Mrs. A. H. Morgan, Carlos Hopper, Alton Hopper, Mrs. George Carpenter, Ben Ely Hendrick, Mrs. Earl Meacham, J. Ray Lutz, Mrs. Hopson Austell, Lloyd Lutz, Holly Eskridge, Mrs. Eva Newman, Earle A. Hamrick, Mrs. Earle A. Hamrick, C. Oren Hamrick, Mrs. Penry Owen, B. F. Spangler, Mrs. Plato Grigg.

Also, Mrs. W. B. Metcalf, Mrs. Clarence Newman, Mrs. J. M. Hall, Mrs. Erma Grayson, Miss Ruth Mundy, R. Hubbard Hamrick, Mrs. J. W. Suttle, Tom Moore, Mrs. Lloyd Lutz, Mrs. Worth Branton, Charles R. Eskridge and Mrs. Jean Thompson.

CHURCH HOSTESSES

During the pastorate of Dr. Zeno Wall the practice of church suppers was begun and has continued. It was Dr. Wall's belief that "good fellowship always prevailed around a table" and he often remarked that he rejoiced with his "flock" at the Sunday and Wednesday evening suppers. Sunday suppers were discontinued in 1966 but Wednesday suppers continue to be held from September through May, or during the school months. Five women have served as church hostesses, namely Mrs. Raye (L. J.) Baley, Mrs. Grady Lovelace, Mrs. B. M. Jarrett, Mrs. Plato Grigg and Mrs. L. P. Williams.

STATESMEN

Beginning with the first pastor, Rev. James Milton Webb, who served as a Representative in the N. C. General Assembly, First Baptist has furnished many statesmen and politicians. James L. Webb was a district solicitor for 12 years, superior court judge for 36 years and state senator 1883-85 and 1887-89. E. Y. Webb was a member of the N. C. Senate, 1900, U. S. Congressman for 17 years and Federal judge for 28 years; Odus M. Mull served six regular and two special terms between 1907 and 1941 in the N. C. House of Representatives and was Speaker of the House in 1941; O. Max Gardner was a State Senator, 1910-16 and President pro tem in 1915, Lieutenant Governor, 1916-20, Governor of North Carolina, 1928-32, and appointed by President Harry Truman to be the U.S. representative at the Court of St. James although he died February 6, 1947, a few hours before he was to sail for London; B. T. Falls, member of the N. C. House of Representatives, 1924-28; Lee B. Weathers, N. C. Senator, 1943-51; Henry B. Edwards, N. C. House of Representatives, 1931-32; Ralph W. Gardner, N. C. Senate, 1939-41; C. C. Horn, N. C. House, 1945-46; B. T. Falls, Jr., six terms in the N. C. House between 1943 and 1957, Superior Court solicitor, 1957-65, and appointed Superior Court judge in July, 1965.

COMMUNITY LEADERS

Many members and former members of First Baptist have been tapped for community honors. When Van H. Ramsey, the church's minister of music, was named recipient of the Distinguished Service Award by the Shelby Jaycees for outstanding service rendered during the year 1968, he became the eighteenth member of the church to receive that honor out of the total 28 recipients. Others have been L. J. (Bill) Baley, Jr., '43; C. Rush Hamrick, Jr., '47; Walter Fanning, '48; Carlos Young, '49; John Ed Davis, '51; Harlan Harris, '52; J. L. Wilkie, '53; J. A. West, '54; Charles Heath, '57; Max Butler, '58; F. DeLane Davis, '59; Dr. Robert Litton, '60; Ronald Hawkins, '61; Ronald Austell, '62; Jim Horn, '64; Roddey Eaves, '65; John Brock, '66.

Of the thirty-three men honored by the Shelby Lions Club as "Citizens of The Year," nineteen have been members of the church. They are: Harry Woodson, '37; Lee B. Weathers, '38; O. M. Mull, '40; Dr. T. B. Mitchell, '42; O. Max Gardner, '43; J. R. Dover, Jr., '45; J' Lowery Austell, '48; Cecil L. Gilliatt, '52; Dr. H. S. Plaster, '53; Mal A. Spangler, Sr., '57; Harold Love, '59; Lloyd C. Bost, '60; Horace Easom, '61; R. Patrick Spangler, '63; J. L. Suttle, Jr., '64; Dr. Avery W. McMurry, '66; Hoyt Q. Bailey, '67; C. Rush Hamrick, Jr., '68, and Earl W. Spangler, '69.

"Shelby's Woman of the Year" Honors awarded by the Shelby Business and Professional Women's Club have been bestowed on twelve members out of a total of twenty-one recipients: Miss Selma Webb, '48; Mrs. Cecil Gilliatt, '51; Mrs. George M. Carpenter, '52; Mrs. Rush Stroup, '54; Mrs. L. W. Short, '55; Mrs. E. V. Moore, '56; Mrs. B. M. Jarrett, '60; Mrs. O. Max Gardner, Sr., '61; Mrs. Griffin P. Smith, '62; Mrs. C. Rush Hamrick, Jr., '63; Mrs. Roy Propst, '66; and Mrs. Harold W. Causby, '68.

In 1965 the Shelby Business and Professional Woman's Club began awarding the "Young Career Woman of the Year," this honor going to Miss Ann Yarborough in 1967.

IN CRUSADES

Pastor John Lawrence went to Paraguay, South America to work with the Evangelistic Crusade in October, 1959 and the Rev. Roland Leath, who was ordained by Dr. Forrest C. Feezor on December 16, 1964, participated in a simultaneous revival crusade in September, 1963, in Continental Europe on invitation of the Foreign Mission Board.

LATEST LAND PURCHASES

On July 20, 1964, by deed recorded in Book 10-0 on page 486, the First Baptist Church acquired for the sum of \$18,000 a tract of land fronting 50½ feet on North Washington Street and 110 feet on Sumter Street on which had been located the Shelby Creamery. Later, on January 1, 1968, the church acquired the Clyde Short property fronting 64.75 feet on Sumter Street and 64.8 feet on Dale Street, the church now owning the entire block on which the facilities are located, plus the parking lot on Sumter and North LaFayette. The Short property was purchased for the sum of \$60,000.

Two lots on North LaFayette Street just north of West Sumter Street

were acquired by the church on March 18, 1960 for \$62,500 and are recorded in Book 8-R on page 457, Book 8-R on page 485, and Book 8-R on page 461. The property fronts 125 feet on North LaFayette Street and 130 feet on West Sumter Street. Originally acquired for a youth building, the lot was later paved and metered in co-operation with the city, which made capital improvements of around \$7,000. This indebtedness is to be retired monthly by revenue from the parking meters, the lease to run 15 years with a provision of its being terminated by either party by a 60 days notification in writing. At the end of 15 years the church would own the improvement and meters.

Plans for a youth activities building to be located on the site of the Short property at an estimated cost of \$515,000 were presented in August, 1968, but were suspended two months later. C. L. Vaughn Associates was paid \$9,075 for the plans.

In all, eight parcels of land have been bought for the church. All deeds are recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds office in the Court House annex.

BAPTISTS DATE BACK TO 1727

The first Baptist church ever "planted" in North Carolina was organized in Chowan in 1727; the second in 1743; and the third in 1755, according to the Kings Mountain Association history. The Baptists could do little in this state until after American independence and by 1784, only 42 churches had been established with 3,200 members and 47 ministers. Records of 1877 boasted of 1,442 churches, 793 ministers and over 137,000 members.

The first Baptist church to be organized in what is now Cleveland County was Sandy Run at Mooresboro, established in 1788, secondly, Zion Baptist Church in 1816; and Zoar Baptist which was formed in 1837.

At the time of publication (summer, 1969), the First Baptist Church with 2,225 members ranked sixth in size among the 3,456 Baptist churches in North Carolina, falling in place behind Greensboro First, Charlotte First, Asheville First, Green Street in High Point and Prichard Memorial in Charlotte. The number of Baptists in this state has reached 1,007,194 and is the third largest state in the Southern Baptist Convention. Shelby's First Baptist ranks second in Foreign Missions; fifth in Training Union; fourth in Sunday School attendance; and first in Brotherhood.

Unprecedented changes and innovations have been witnessed by the First Baptist Church congregations in the past few years and even the past few months as astronauts walk in space and succeed in landing on the moon . . . indeed, a far cry from the days of 1847 when our 25 valiant pioneers kindled a spiritual flame that has shared its warmth with people of this area and with those of remote lands through the mission field. From this vantage peak of our 122nd anniversary, we behold a progressive panorama of achievements and exploits which has enriched the lives of all . . . but it is from the peak also that the need for Christian character and righteousness of life may be re-emphasized, not only as we review

the past, but as we consider the future.

On the reverse side of a dollar bill at the apex of the pyramid in the seal is a Latin inscription which means "He (God) has favored our undertakings." Just as that was what the founders of this nation believed and affirmed, it is also our affirmation as we read through the aged and fading pages of the history of this church.

For sure, the First Baptist Church's reputation for being one of the state's mightiest churches remains secure and unchallenged.



Auditorium of the second church before it was completely finished on Christmas Eve, 1889 at wedding of William Hackett Blanton and Della Hamrick, parents of Mrs. Pansy Blanton Fetzer. The church was overflowing for the elaborate wedding, first to take place in the church and at which Rev. J. M. McManaway presided. A reception followed at the Commercial Hotel. Members of the wedding party were (not all pictured): Addie Lynch (Mrs. Will Dameron), Dora Hamrick (Mrs. W. H. Jennings), Ollie McBrayer (Mrs. S. S. Royster), Julia Wilson (Mrs. J. D. Andrews), Fannie Wray (Mrs. John Hudson), Hattie Kendrick, Kitty Andrews, Emma Suttle, Cleo Gardner (Mrs. Tom Robinson), Hattie Lattimore (Mrs. W. B. Nix); H. Decatur Wilson, W. C. Corbett, S. S. Royster, J. F. Ware, C. C. Gidney, Hill Blanton, James Wilson, Dr. J. A. Harrill, W. B. Wray, B. E. Hamrick.



MEMBERS OVER 50 YEARS—Gathering for a dinner meeting on June 27, 1969 in celebration of their 50-year and over memberships were: first row, left to right: Mrs. P. F. Grigg, Mrs. J. M. Hall, Miss Luelle Nix, Mrs. Hubbard Hamrick, Mrs. Zeb Mauney, Miss Bessie McBrayer, Mrs. Clarence Newman, Mrs. Maurice Weathers, Mrs. Mayme Wray Webb, Mrs. Nelson Latimore, Mrs. George Blanton, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Spangler, Miss Avie Weathers, Second row: V. F. Hamrick, Perry Sellers, Mrs. Plato Grigg, Miss Laura Cornwell, Mrs. O. V. Hamrick, Mrs. A. V. Nolan, Mrs. Ransom Casstevens, Mrs. Dewitt Quinn, Mrs. Pansy Feizer, Mrs. Oren Hamrick, Miss Ollie Hamrick, Standing: Mrs. Paul Hawkins, Mrs. J. H. Eskridge, J. G. Dudley, Jr., Mrs. Clyde Moore, Mrs. Carl Newman, Mrs. C. Rush Hamrick, Mrs. W. H. Hudson, Mrs. D. W. Royster, Mrs. Charles Eskridge, Mrs. Paul Webb, Miss Lucy Hamrick, Mrs. Penny Owen, Alton Hoppet, Ray Lutz, Mrs. Earl Meacham, Lloyd Lutz, Tilden Falls, A. V. Hamrick, Mrs. Cecil Gilliatt, Mrs. Fred Costner, Mrs. George Carpenter.

Miss Ollie Hamrick has the longest membership at First Baptist Church, 78 years, and is the church's oldest member at age 94.



Three sisters and three brothers have attained 50-year memberships at First Baptist. Seated are, left to right: Mrs. Clyde Moore, Mrs. Carl Newman and Mrs. C. Rush Hamrick. Standing: R. Hubbard Hamrick, A. V. Hamrick and V. F. Hamrick.



CHOIR IN 1961—front row, left to right: Mrs. W. B. Melton, Mrs. Roland Leath, Mrs. Lloyd Bost, Mrs. A. Vason Hamrick, Jr., Mrs. Don Gold, Mrs. Blake McWhirter, Mrs. Ervin Willis, Mrs. Kenneth Street, Mrs. Mickey LeCroy, Mrs. A. A. Powell. Second row: Miss Anita Stone, Miss Marianna King, Mrs. Dan Hughes, Mrs. Bill Lowery, Mrs. Lewis Cantrell, Mrs. Lewis Borders, Miss Carole Pearson, Mrs. J. F. Abernathy, Mrs. Tom Graham, Mrs. James Frazier, Mrs. O. V. Hamrick, Jr., Mrs. Hoyle Gold, C. J. Hill, Charles Reid. Third row: F. O. Champion, Dr. H. S. Plaster, Robert Cabaniss, Hugh Mauney, Lewis Cantrell, A. A. Powell, Lee Wells, W. B. Wilder, Mickey LeCroy, James Frazier, Dr. Blake McWhirter, Lloyd Bost.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The church has always furnished both a theme and a patron for music and First Baptist Church has a right to be humbly proud of this queen of the Arts which has inspired its congregations through the years. Good sacred music has enriched the worship of this church through its expanding years to the point that it is now tradition—a reputation that has come about through dedicated, consecrated musicians.

Because several of the ministers of music have also served in the dual capacity of directors of religious education, these two departments are combined in the church history.

Paid directors of music began in the year 1912 and since that date, ten persons have dedicated their talents in that position.

E. A. (Ezra) Ruppe served the church as minister of music during two periods - October 15, 1912, for 11 months, and August 25, 1920 for one year. It may be noted here that the church ordered Ruppe licensed to preach on September 8, 1920.

Harry M. Pippin served as the second minister of music, beginning on August 24, 1924 and serving until October 1, 1927, the church being without a paid director from September, 1913 until August of 1920.

J. O. Reynolds, who also served as assistant pastor, directed the music from November 20, 1927 until May, 1928.

Horace Easom, director of religious education and minister of music, served from August 5, 1928 to September 1, 1934 and again from August 1, 1936 to June 1, 1947.

Harold C. Seefeldt was music director from November, 1934 until the spring of 1936.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe D. Hamrick came to the church in July, 1947 and directed the program of music until December, 1949.

Roland M. Leath served as educational director and music director from January 1, 1950 until January, 1966. Mr. Leath served as director of all the choirs and the Male Chorus until 1961 when Miss Carole Pearson, youth director, became director of the Girls' Ensemble and Mrs. Blake McWhirter took over the junior choir.

John Bascom Ward came to the church on January 23, 1966 and served until October 27, 1966 as music director.

Van H. Ramsey joined the church staff as minister of music in Jan-

uary, 1967 and continues in that role today.

Only one person has served solely as director of religious education and that was Miss Lucille Welch, whose short term began January 5, 1949 and continued until August 18, 1949. Harlan Harris, who assumed his duties as assistant pastor and educational director in January, 1948, continued until April 4, 1948 when he became pastor, succeeding Dr. Zeno Wall who had resigned to become superintendent of the Baptist Children's Home in Thomasville.

MRS. H. S. PLASTER, Organist

In one of the longest and most dedicated periods of service in the history of First Baptist Church, Mrs. Hubert S. Plaster has been at the organ to help the church attain the heights in the musical realm where it stands at present. C. Rush Hamrick, chairman of the music committee, recommended Mrs. Plaster, then Miss Ruth Howie, for church organist on February 16, 1927 and she has served since that date with exception of a period in the early 1940's when she suffered an attack of pernicious anemia. She has been one of the all-time greats as an accompanist and



Mrs. H. S. Plaster . . . organist for 42 years.

musician and has gained the respect and admiration of all who know and work with her.

Dr. Zeno Wall, under whose ministry she has served the longest, said of Mrs. Plaster "She was the outstanding organist in my 50 years in the ministry" and he referred constantly to her faithfulness and to her

wonderful Christian spirit.

In a special "Queen For a Night" program on February 25, 1965 when her church associates and friends tributed her service, Dr. Eugene Poston, president of Gardner-Webb College where she was an organ instructor, noted that her influence is not only felt locally, but around the world since some of her college students who have studied under her in the music department there are now serving in places throughout the world. Mr. Leath praised her excellence of musicianship, "surpassed only by her marvelous spirit of cooperation and understanding."

Reared in Abbeville, S. C., Mrs. Plaster was the oldest daughter in a family of seven children, one of whom was Thomas Dry Howie, the famed "Major of St. Lo" in World War II. She began piano lessons at eight years of age and remembers her first triumph when she learned to play "A Little Ray of Sunshine." Playing the piano for church services at age 10, by age 14 she played the pipe organ in the new church there before she had had formal organ training. Later she studied under Dr. Orlando Mansfield at Brenau College Conservatory in Gainesville, Ga., completing work for a Bachelor's degree in pipe organ and piano, after which she did graduate work in public school music and piano at the University of Wisconsin and later took education courses at the University of North Carolina and at Catawba College.

After teaching elementary school and piano in Abbeville for a period, Mrs. Plaster came to Shelby on invitation to teach here by Superintendent I. C. Griffin whom she had met at Chapel Hill. Arriving in 1925, she was music teacher for the city system in addition to teaching at South Shelby elementary school for four years and at LaFayette School for four and one-half years.

She and Dr. Plaster, a dentist, were married in 1927, Dr. Plaster a musician in his own right, being a violinist and a member of the church choir. Their only daughter, Vicki, has a lovely soprano voice and sang with the church choir until her schooling interrupted. Vicki, now Mrs. Leland David Whitelock, Jr., graduated from the University of Maryland School of Medicine and after interning at the Public Health Hospital in Baltimore, joined the private practice of an older physician in Norfolk, Va., where she continues her practice at present. Her husband, also a doctor, is head of the Department of Ophthalmology in Public Health Hospital in Norfolk. They are parents of three daughters, Elizabeth, Lilliann Plaster and Susan Ruth.

In addition to playing for regular church services and functions, Mrs. Plaster has provided music for hundreds of weddings and funerals during her 42-year tenure at First Baptist. She taught organ at Gardner-Webb from 1953 until 1966, on which she commented: "College teaching is the most rewarding thing I have ever done. It's such a joy to be able to guide a person in the exciting adventure of music."

Remaining with Mrs. Plaster is her mother's precept that musical talent is a gift from God. No one will argue that she has wrapped her gift in charm and dignity and shared it with all who would partake.

EARLIER ORGANISTS

Serving as church organists prior to Mrs. Plaster were Mrs. W. B. Nix, first to be mentioned in available church records; in rapid succession Mrs. W. L. Carroll, Miss Cora Barnett and Mrs. R. F. Tredway; Mrs. H. T. Hudson, who was the first to perform at the pipe organ on September 6, 1911; Mrs. J. L. Suttle; Mrs. Lee M. White; Mrs. Dewitt Quinn, who was choir director and organist at a salary of \$10 per month; Miss Bertha Bostick; Miss Mary Helen Lattimore (now Mrs. Heath Pemberton); Miss Mary Adelaide Roberts (Mrs. Charles Austell); Miss Eugenia Holland (Mrs. Charles Wall, Jr.); Mrs. A. Pitt Beam; Miss Bertie Lee Suttle (Mrs. Joe T. Cabaniss).

It is recorded that after preaching services on July 10, 1904, the church treasurer was ordered to pay \$2.50 for music for the choir.

On April 5, 1908, a conference was called and it was recommended that the church pay the organist and choir director \$5 per month. By 1912 the salaries were raised to \$10 per month and again in 1919 the amount was set at \$20 a month.

In the regular conference of January 1921, a resolution was adopted "that singing and music are so vital to the worship program that the church will heartily cooperate with Ruppe in any movement for improvement." The first music committee was appointed immediately afterwards whose duty was to find at least 50 persons among the membership who would agree to take training for a period of six months and to assist Ruppe with his work. The committee selected was composed of Forrest Eskridge, Paul Webb, C. B. Suttle, Jr., Mrs. O. Max Gardner and Mrs. Dewitt Quinn.

Since 1927 the choir has been robed in beige crepe donated by Cleveland Cloth Mill and made by seamstresses of the church; black tailored robes with red satin stoles; black and white robes of light weight silk for summer; and the present white silk with green satin stoles.

When the church building was enlarged during 1928-29, the choir space was enlarged, the organ was renovated and the vox humana stop and organ chimes added. Space for the choir was enlarged to seat 40 from the original space for 19, and the organ console was moved to the floor of the auditorium from its original place in the center of the choir where a mirror hung over it to allow the organist to watch the congregation and the pulpit.

Five hymnals have been used since 1912: namely, The Baptist Hymnal and Praise Book, Hymns of Faith, Modern Hymnal, The Broadman Hymnal (given by Mrs. Rush Stroup), and now the Baptist Hymnal, latest hymnal of the Southern Baptists and considered the best Baptist hymnal of all. These are bound in brown with gilt lettering to match the walnut decor of the sanctuary.

Through the years the music directors have collected many standard beautiful anthems and cantatas. Mr. Easom collected from the older school such music as The Sanctus by Gounod and The Gloria from Mozart's Twelfth Mass, as well as the Messiah and other fine cantatas. Others have added many numbers from later composers.

Singers from all ages are heard in the regular services at First Baptist

and on special occasions when full musical programs are enjoyed. The development of music appreciation not only by the choirs but by the congregation as a whole has shown a steady growth. No music is too difficult for the choirs to sing and to enjoy, nor is any number too simple to use if the poem and music present some divine truth. As an example, the church choir has sung Handel's Messiah, both Easter and Christmas parts, several times. They also love Stainer's numbers or some cantata such as DuBois' "Seven Last Words".

MUSIC LIBRARY

The music library of the church contains 1,210 individual anthems, making it one of the largest and most complete libraries of any church. In addition, there are collections containing hundreds of anthems and the library also possesses some of the great cantatas and oratorios, all well filed and catalogued. Recently the library was expanded to include a growing and usable library of recordings numbering 120 long-playing albums for various church functions or for listening to great church music. The library also contains 21 film strips and recordings for music theory instruction and music appreciation.

The choir room, provided in 1953 was the first room ever given to the music department and prior to that time choir members robed in the halls where the robe cabinet was placed. Also, practice was held in any convenient place. In 1962, the church purchased a Steinway piano for the practice of the choirs and today the large and adequate room is probably the most used room in the church.

Pianos are placed in all departments where needed. The Gardner family gave from their home the fine Miller Grand piano which is placed in the drawing room of the church where many happy young couples have their wedding receptions. The Gardner family also gave an electric Consonata organ for Webb Chapel. For many years a grand piano was in the sanctuary which had been given by Mal Spangler, Sr. and J. L. Suttle, Jr. in honor of Mrs. Ethel Spangler and Mrs. Joe L. Suttle, Sr.

The Moeller organ in the sanctuary was given by Andrew Carnegie and C. C. Blanton in 1911 and because the church has taken proper care of this instrument, today it is a beautifully toned organ functioning in every way. The church has had a treasure in this instrument for 58 years. There have been two expensive major repairs in these years but with some addition in tone structure the organ would be entirely in the class of excellent small (two-manual) organs of today.

It was during Mr. Easom's office that First Baptist had the largest combined choir, 175 voices, of any other Baptist Church in the state.

MALE QUARTET

One service that the music department rendered for many years was that of furnishing music with a male or mixed quartet at funerals over the county in various churches since few churches had directors of music before the 1950's. This service was practiced for approximately 25 years from the early 1930's through the late 1950's and, with Mrs. Plaster as accompanist, the original quartet was composed of C. Rush Hamrick,

E. B. Hill, Mal Spangler and Horace Easom. The quartet sang at more than 3,000 funerals during that time.

A women's quartet which also sang at funerals and on invitation throughout the county was composed of Mrs. Bea Suttle Morris, Mrs. A. C. Farmer, Mrs. B. M. Jarrett and Mrs. Grady Lovelace. One or two of this group often filled in for members of the male quartet when needed.

SERVICE IN CHOIR



C. Rush Hamrick

Many musicians have given many years of loving service to the choir, among them (prior to the present choir) being Mrs. Ben Suttle (now Mrs. R. W. Morris), Mr. and Mrs. Grady Lovelace, Mrs. D. W. Royster, Mrs. Ralph Royster, Mrs. Mildred Hamrick Suttle (now Mrs. McMurry Wilkins), Mr. and Mrs. Audie Powell, Dr. and Mrs. B. M. Jarret, E. B. Hill, Mal Spangler, Sr., and C. Rush Hamrick, Sr., the latter having the longest record (over 50 years) as a choir singer and one of the most beloved of any musician in the church. His fine bass voice was heard through many years in sacred song throughout this entire area before his death on June 2, 1964.

Others who have rendered many years of service in the choir through the past have included Mrs. L. P. Holland, Miss Selma Webb, Miss Amos Willis, Hatcher Webb, Miss Bertha Bostick, Miss Egberta North, Tom and Josh Lattimore, Miss Lura Smith, Mrs. Luther Ingle, Mrs. Minnie Eddins Roberts Carpenter, Mrs. Mary Adelaide Roberts Austell, Mrs. Flossie Grice Moore, George Dover, Griffin P. Smith, Mrs. John McArthur, Reid Misenheimer, L. J. (Bill) Baley, Mrs. J. F. Abernathy, Dick Howerton, Miss Marianna King, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Liles, Hub Panther, Mrs. H. A. Davis, Mrs. Zeno Wall, Mrs. A. C. Farmer, Mrs. Roy Price, Mrs. L. W. Short, J. G. Garrett, Joe Beckham, Lyman Martin, Mrs. Ruby Pate, Mrs. Joe Laughridge, Howard Gold, Mrs. Carl Martin, Matilda Jenks, Barbara Elam, Woodrow Wall, Mrs. Jean Thompson, Mrs. Enos Beam, Miss Louise Ledford, Mrs. Mae Lattimore Adams, Mrs. Bobby Eskridge, Datha H. Spangler and Z. Miller Freeman.

"THE GENERATION"

Outstanding service is now being rendered in the church by "The Generation," which was first organized as The Girls Ensemble in 1952 by Roland Leath and later became The Sextet. The group is composed of from six to eight young ladies of high school age whose voices blend almost perfectly in sacred or modern music.

In early 1968 the name and purpose of The Sextet was changed. Calling themselves now "The Generation," it was decided to take the

message of Christ and the church into civic clubs and other public secular affairs throughout the county. With this addition in purpose the group sang 65 concerts in 14 months throughout the length and breadth of this state and into other states, in addition to regular participation in the worship services of First Baptist. This group is recorded on a long playing recording. Members of The Generation are Kathy Panther, Debbie Rogers, Susan McDonald, Carol Smith, Gwen Bissette, Jo Ann Yates, Patty McBrayer and Connie Clark.



"THE GENERATION": left to right, Debbie Rogers, Kathy Panther, Patty McBrayer, Susan MacDonald, Carol Smith, Gwen Bissette, JoAnn Yates.

YOUNG PEOPLES CHOIR

Ramsey's "Good News" choir, composed entirely of young members of First Baptist Church and numbering around 120, and the "Sing Out For Freedom" choir, composed of voices from all denominations, have been widely accepted in this area and continue to be heard by capacity audiences in demand performances.

The "Sing Out for Freedom" choir has an enrollment of 214 of which 140 are from First Baptist and the remaining 74 from other denominations numbering 22 churches in Shelby and Cleveland county. Another unique feature of this choir is that it is an integral part of the music program in that it rehearses weekly, being the largest choir known in North Carolina which meets for weekly rehearsals throughout the year except summer.

Performance of the two choirs include personal testimonies as well as inspirational singing and it is agreed that this type of musical organization has been one of the most acceptable in the history of the church. Recordings of these choirs have been made available to the membership and to the public.

A singing group of boys of senior high school age was organized in March, 1969, which is comparable to The Generation and to the Boy's Octette which performed in 1962. The name of this group is The Revelation and its members include Chris Hudson, Tim Martin, and Bobby Causby. Linda Hamrick is pianist.

Twelve choirs are active today under the direction of Van Ramsey. They include: Beginners, two Primary, Junior, Junior High, Senior High, Adult, Men's, Young People's Singout, The Generation, Junior High Triple Trio choirs and The Revelation.

The two Primary choirs are directed by Mrs. Van H. Ramsey and Mrs. Mickey LeCroy.

In the spring of 1967 the Adult choir premiered in North Carolina a cantata by Mary Caldwell entitled "Of Time and Eternity."

Rehearsals began February 6, 1969 for a new program by the church's singing young people, "A Better Life." All grades seven through 12 were invited to participate as in the "Sing Out" and "Good News" choirs.

SINGING TOURS

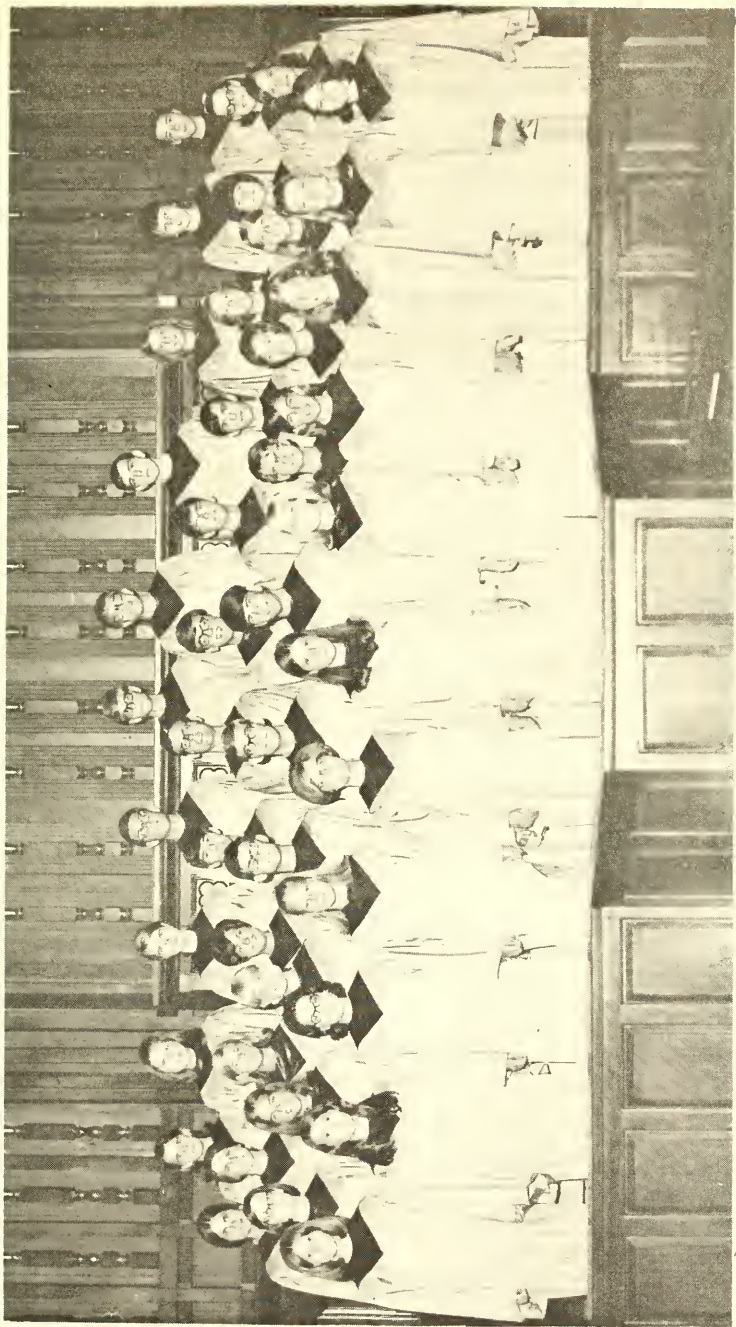
A five-state tour was made in August of this year in which 45 young singers participated with Ramsey as their leader, the tour route planned along the Gulf of Mexico. In 1967 a similar group toured the midwest and in the summer of 1968 the tour included Georgia and Florida.

One of the highlights of the youthful singing groups came on July 21, 1966 when 37 youths composing the Chapel Choir and five adults from First Baptist boarded a chartered bus for the metropolitan area of New York City on a 10-day home mission project. They worked directly in eight churches in and around New York City in an attempt to win souls to Christ through choir concerts, vacation Bible school work, telephone surveys and personal witness. Their field was a rich one since it was estimated that 16 million persons lived in the area covered by the Southern Baptist metropolitan area work and approximately one-half of that population was thought to never attend church.

Music played a large part in the mission effort with choir concerts given in Immanuel Baptist Church in Colonial Heights, Va., and in First Polish Baptist Church in Brooklyn in addition to furnishing music in the major churches of the mission.

Accompanists who have served with various choirs include Mrs. Newlin Schenck, Mrs. John Kester, Mrs. Richard Murphy, Miss Elaine Harris, Mrs. Oscar Stuart, Mrs. Julian Hamrick, Jo Ann Yates, Patty McBrayer, Mrs. Bill Silver, Mrs. Jim Wilson, Carol Smith, Linda Hamrick and Sarah Sullivan.

Alfred Washburn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Washburn, studied piano



SENIOR HIGH CHOIR—This choir traveled and sang in Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana on a week's tour August 2-10, 1969. Following each concert "The Revelation" and "The Revelation" sang secular and sacred music. Members of the choir are: Tommy Aiken, Donnie Allen, Ann Atkinson, Lynn Bankhead, Gwen Bissette, Karen Bowling, Robert Causby, Pat Chamberlain, Debbie Edney, Ann Eskridge, Kim Eskridge, Kathy Gardner, Kathy Holloman, Linda Hamrick, David Henry, Charles Hoyle, Chris Hudson, Steve Jolly, Linda Jones, Debbie Keever, Johnson Kelly, Mary Leinweber, Sara Lutz, Susan MacDonald, Patty McBrayer, Mike Martin, Susan Martin, Charlotte Mincey, Lenora Neal, Kathy Panther, Debbie Rogers, Beverly Rush, Lou Ann Seism, Pat Shelton, Carol Smith, Joan Spangler, Eddie Sparks, Sarah Speagle, Dan Sullivan, Jane Sullivan, Susan Swift, Richard Waldrop, Robin Weaver, Evelyn West and JoAnn Yates. Patty McBrayer is pianist.

and became interested in organ and church music while a member of this church. Mrs. Plaster encouraged his interest in the organ and he went into formal organ training and religious work. He is currently minister of music at Terry Parker Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla., leaving this church to accept the position as editor of beginner and primary music materials at the Sunday School Board but stayed only six months before being called to return to this church.

E. A. RUPPE

The first choir director and educational director, E. A. Ruppe, was a native of Ohio and after graduating from Moody Bible Institute in Chicago was song leader and choir director for traveling evangelists. During his first term of service with First Baptist he was instrumental in starting the BYPU (now BTU). After leaving Shelby he lived in Dodge City, Kansas for several years. Never strong physically, he had almost a lifetime fight against tuberculosis and was a patient and assistant chaplain in Kansas State Sanatorium at Norton, Kansas from 1939 until his death in March, 1966.

The Kan-San, publication of the Kansas State Sanatorium, in its May-June, 1962 issue paid tribute to Mr. Ruppe, who had spent 23 years in the institution where he called on patients, distributed religious literature, read scripture to those who requested it, wrote letters for those who were unable to write for themselves and performed many other duties in a religious leadership. He managed the sanatorium's greenhouse for four years and worked as a spiritual counselor, becoming in July, 1955 the institution's chaplain. He was ordained a minister in the Missionary Church Association on December 18, 1955. He left the sanatorium to return to his home and family in California in June, 1956, but returned to the sanatorium in April, 1957 for reasons of health and served as assistant chaplain until his death.

Mrs. Ruppe died January 22, 1967 in California.

HARRY M. PIPPIN

Harry M. Pippin was a native of Ozark, Ala., and graduate of the Bible Institute of New Orleans. He also worked with some of the leading Southern Baptist evangelist ministers as song director. While in evangelistic work he suffered an injury which forced him to give up these duties and he entered the business world, conducting a successful grocery business while engaging in church work on the side. He died in Augusta, Ga., February 16, 1957.

HORACE EASOM

Horace Easom, native North Carolinian from Smithfield in Johnston County, has become synonymous with Baptist work over the state. Serving this church as music and education director for a total of 17 years, he is the son of James H. and Mary Parrish Easom.

Educated at Buies Creek Academy (now Campbell College), Wake Forest College and New York School of Music and Arts, he served in World War I and afterwards became director of education and music at

Southside Church in Wilmington in 1921. Other churches in which he served in the same capacity are First Baptist of Asheville; First Baptist of Dallas, Texas; and Buffalo Baptist near Shelby. Between 1947 and 1952 he led the Wake Forest Enlargement Campaign to raise \$2 million through the state's Baptist churches and afterwards was the state's first Brotherhood secretary, and secretary of the Baptist Foundation.

Easom retired in 1958 but promptly became director of public relations for Union Trust Company in Shelby. He has been a member of the Wake Forest College Board of Trustees, the Gardner-Webb College Board of Trustees, and the Advisory Committee for Gardner-Webb. He also served as campaign chairman for the enlargement and development of Gardner-Webb, which was known at the time as Boiling Springs Junior College.

He has directed music for the State Convention, the State Evangelistic Conference and for several Baptist assemblies. He has also served as Moderator for the Kings Mountain Baptist Association and is one of the Christian Laymen's Witnessing Organization. A civic-minded individual, he was named "Man of the Year" in 1961 by the Shelby Lions Club; served as Lieutenant Governor of Division One for Carolina Kiwanis; chaplain for the American Legion Post No. 82. He is currently executive director of the Cleveland County United Fund, Inc., a post he has held since July 1, 1961.

In 1926 he married Margaret Stevens of Clinton, N. C. and they have a daughter, Margaret (Mrs. Robert Litton), and three grandchildren. One son, Horace Easom, Jr., died in infancy.

HAROLD SEEFELDT

Harold Seefeldt, education and music director between Mr. Easom's terms, became superintendent of the Arkansas Baptist Children's Home in Brinkley, Arkansas after leaving Shelby and retired from that position in 1966.

MR. AND MRS. JOE D. HAMRICK

Mr. and Mrs. Joe D. Hamrick came to Shelby from Winston-Salem, Mr. Hamrick coming to serve as administrator of Cleveland Memorial Hospital although he had been a school man and band director. While residing here, Mr. Hamrick directed music at First Baptist and Mrs. Hamrick, the former Elizabeth Tavis of Winston-Salem, directed the music at Central Methodist Church, the two working together in the field of music.

The Shelby Choral Club was organized by the two with Mr. Hamrick serving as director of the 100 voices, Mrs. Hamrick singing the solo contralto parts and Mrs. Robert Gidney the soprano solos. Tenor and bass guest soloists were invited to join the group at special performances. The group lacked leadership after Mr. and Mrs. Hamrick returned to Winston-Salem in December, 1949 and disbanded soon afterwards.

Mr. Hamrick was a native of Rutherford County and a tenor while Mrs. Hamrick, a graduate of Westminster Choir School, was an outstanding contralto and toured with the Westminster Choir in Europe. They had three children, Jeannie, Lynn and Dow. Mr. Hamrick died not too long

after they returned to Winston-Salem.

ROLAND LEATH

Roland Leath, native Texan, was educated at Ottawa University, Ottawa, Kansas; North Texas Agricultural College in Arlington, Texas; Mary-Hardin Baylor College in Belton, Texas; Texas Christian University in Fort Worth; Southwestern Theological Seminary at Fort Worth and Fort Worth Conservatory of Music. Following high school he traveled through the west and midwest with an evangelistic team, entering the fulltime work of religious education and music in 1934. Before coming to Shelby's First Baptist, he served at First Baptist in Little Rock, Arkansas; First Baptist in Temple, Texas; Travis Avenue Baptist and Rosen Heights Baptist in Fort Worth; and First Baptist in Paris, Texas. He was ordained to preach December 16, 1964, and became assistant pastor of the church on August 18, 1965.

An accomplished pianist, Rev. Leath has aided in the music field at Ridgecrest and Caswell Baptist Assemblies; has been active in Training Union programs and in all religious affairs of Gardner-Webb College and in Cleveland County. Under his leadership the Sunday School enrollment increased from 1,631 to over 2,200 and Training Union enrollment tripled; the adult Sunday School enrollment was graded and he spearheaded the organization of additional departments. He has also been active in the Baptist State Convention, serving two terms on the N. C. General Board and secretary for the Commission on Higher Education for the board.

He served as president of the eighth district for the Training Union Department of North Carolina during the years 1956-61, and as president of the North Carolina Educational Directors' Conference of the Baptist State Convention in 1961-1962.

In February, 1955 the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention invited Rev. Leath to participate in an enlargement campaign among the newly organized Southern Baptist churches of the greater Los Angeles area and he served in a teaching and organizational capacity in the Norwalk Southern Baptist Church of Los Angeles, Calif.

Rev. Leath set up the Cherub Choir for ages four and five; the Carol Choir for ages six through eight; the Crusader Choir for Junior boys; the Concord Choir for junior girls; the chapel choir for Intermediates; Girls' Ensemble; the Male Chorus; and Senior Choir. In September, 1963 he participated in a Revival Crusade in Europe, directing choirs and congregational singing in the English-speaking Calvary Baptist Church in Augsburg, Germany and Temple Baptist Church of Ludwigsburg, Germany.

Married to the former Lois Hall of Fort Worth, Texas in 1936, they have three children: Mrs. Suzanne Hamner, Mrs. Janet Hood and Marcus Leath.

JOHN WARD

John Ward was the son of a Baptist minister and a native of Oklahoma. Graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Okla., where he studied voice and directing, he also served with the U. S. Navy from

1942-1945, directing the ship's choir at the Naval Training Center in Norman, Okla., and also on the USS Cascade. He received his Master of Religious Education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

Before coming to Shelby, Ward served as Minister of music and education at Immanuel Baptist in Shawnee, Okla.; First Baptist in Lawton, Okla., Beverly Hills and Ross Avenue Baptist in Dallas, Texas; First Baptist in Seminole, Okla., First Baptist in Sherman, Texas and First Baptist in Plainview, Texas. He left Shelby to go with First Baptist in San Antonio, Texas in October, 1966.

After Mr. Ward came to Shelby, the choir room was remodeled and the choir loft was enlarged by removing one section of paneling which provided four risers. Over 500 members enrolled in music programs during his ministry.

VAN RAMSEY

Van Ramsey, native of Valdese and son of a church musician, began directing music in his home church at the age of 16, succeeding his father. A graduate of Mars Hill College in 1960 and of Lenoir-Rhyne in 1962, he served Beverly Hills Baptist Church in Asheville as minister of music while at Mars Hill and while at Lenoir-Rhyne he served the Mt. Home Baptist Church in Morganton in the same capacity.

In 1963 he went to College Avenue Baptist Church in Lenoir and the church went on record as commissioning him a Minister of the Gospel to serve in the area of church music. It was from this church he came to Shelby's First Baptist in January, 1967.

Ramsey has elevated the church's reputation for good music. In appreciation for his work in the community with young people of all denominations who have been a part of his "Sing Out For Freedom" and "Good News" choirs and have developed themselves spiritually under his guidance, Ramsey was named the "Young Man of the Year" for 1968 by the Shelby Jaycees, a coveted honor.

In another tribute to his talents and good work, Ramsey and The Generation were invited to sing before a joint session of the North Carolina General Assembly at Raleigh on January 30, 1969.

ADULT CHOIR

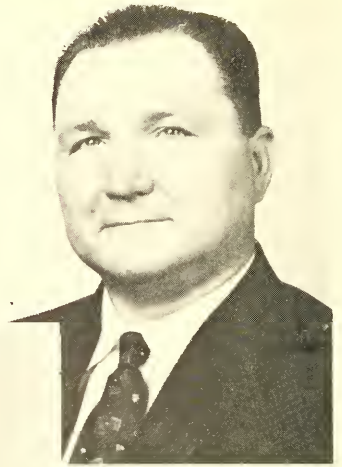
Members of the adult choir at present, many having rendered many years of faithful service, include:

Mrs. Marvin Baugham, Lloyd Bost, Mrs. Lloyd Bost, Miss Linda Buchanan, Miss Lois Buice, Robert Cabaniss, Lewis Cantrell, F. O. Champion, Mrs. Mel Doughty, Jimmy Frazier, Boyce T. Freeman, Mrs. Tom Graham, Mrs. A. V. Hamrick, Jr., Mrs. O. V. Hamrick, Jr., C. J. Hill, Mrs. Jesse T. Holden, Mrs. Joe Hood, Mrs. Dan Hughes, Mrs. Mickey LeCroy, Mrs. William Lowery, Mrs. Robert Lutz.

Also, Dr. Blake McWhirter, Mrs. Blake McWhirter, Dr. H. S. Plaster, Mrs. Van H. Ramsey, Charles Reid, Mrs. Bill Rogers, David Spangler, Mac Spangler, Jr., Mrs. Ralph Sullivan, Mrs. Fred Swift, Mac Wells, Mrs. J. A. West, Mrs. L. P. Williams, Mrs. Irvin Willis, Paul Wilson, Mrs. Paul Wilson, Miss Ann Yarbrough.



E. A. Ruppe



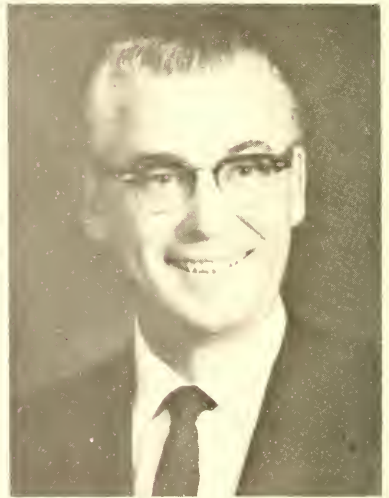
Harry M. Pippin



Harold Seefeldt

Horace Easom

John Ward



HISTORY OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

"Study to show yourself approved unto God" had stirred in the minds of zealous Shelby Baptists for some time before a formal Sunday School organization began to evolve. The granting of the following resolution by the Kings Mountain Baptist Association in 1864 established permission and impetus for the real beginning:

"Resolved, That . . . we will appoint Elder G. M. Webb to preach to and organize Sabbath Schools in all the churches he may be able to, and collect whatever funds he can for services rendered, and report the result of his operations to the next session of the Association."

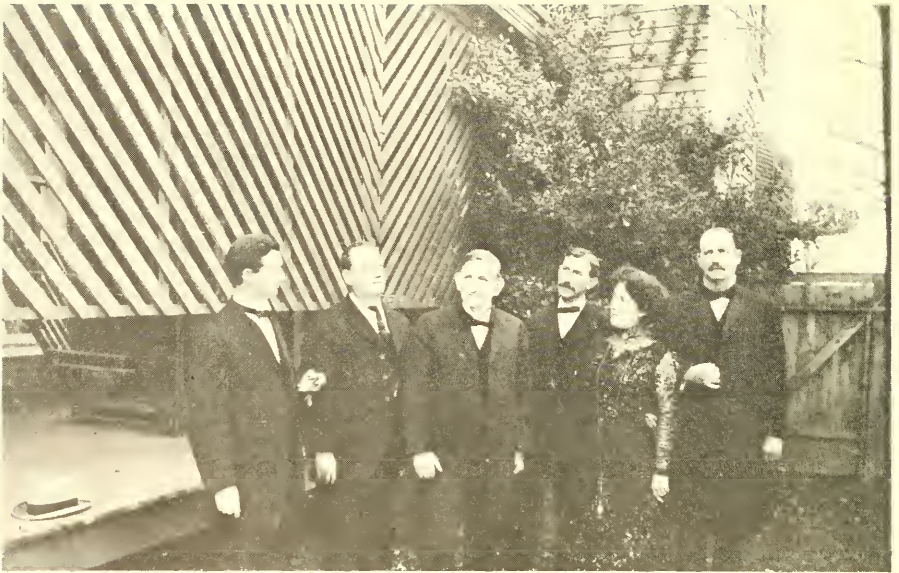
The Shelby Baptist Church at that time was being pastored by Tillman R. Gaines, who had been serving the church since September 1, 1863. That Pastor Gaines was interested in the furthering of knowledge is evidenced by the fact that he had in 1863 organized the Roberts Female Seminary, later known as the Shelby Female Seminary. As pastor, he stood ready to support and to assist in Sunday School organization in every way.

The actual organization began in 1864 under the leadership of G. M. Webb, son of J. M. Webb who had served the Shelby Baptist Church as its first pastor.

G. M. Webb was born on November 14, 1831, in Rutherford County and had been licensed to preach at Concord Baptist Church in that county in 1863. He was, therefore, serving as pastor of the Concord Baptist Church at the time of the adoption of the Kings Mountain Association's Resolution of 1864 pertaining to Sabbath Schools.

G. M. Webb was able and resourceful like his father. He preached for 38 years, his pastorates covering four states in which he served over 40 churches and baptized 1,400 converts in the Baptist church. He was present at the organization of the Kings Mountain Association and missed only two meetings after its organization, serving as Moderator and Clerk. He was acclaimed the "best type of country preacher - a stout-hearted champion of his Master," and he filled the pulpit many times at First Baptist.

Married to Priscilla J. Blanton, they were parents of five children: E. Yates and James L. Webb of Shelby, both federal judges and illustrious citizens; Charles S. Webb, cotton broker and mayor of Greenville,



ILLUSTRIOUS WEBB FAMILY—left to right, Judge E. Y. Webb, Charles Webb, Rev. George Milton Webb, George M. Webb, Jr., Mrs. Edna Webb Darwin, Judge J. L. Webb.

S. C., who gave \$25,000 to Furman University for an infirmary as a memorial to his father and grandfather; George Milton Webb, Jr., prominent businessman engaged in the sale of real estate and insurance in Birmingham, Ala., who married Margaret Blanton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Burwell H. Blanton and sister of C. C. and George Blanton; and Edna, who married John A. Darwin and who was the mother of Mrs. Marion DuBose whose son, Marion D. DuBose of Batesville Baptist Church of Batesville, Indiana was ordained at First Baptist in 1958.

G. M. Webb was a powerful man physically and it is related of him that when at age 75 he could not only wrestle with his sons, but could throw any of them! He walked down the Washington Monument in the national capitol when past three score and ten.

MET WEEKLY

The beginning of the Sabbath schools was laborious but sure. The church at that time was having preaching services only once a month but Sunday School was designed to meet weekly. The planning of the course of study, topics and references was accomplished by local people since no books or literature or planned lessons were available to them.

Only the Bible was used in the first teachings with discussions of certain desired verses or chapters. Some of the better Bible students of the church were teachers in classes that contained the entire family members, including children.

Earliest records from the date of organization are found in the

Association minutes of 1880. At that time T. D. Lattimore was Sunday School Superintendent. He reported a total of six officers, sixteen teachers and one hundred and seventy "scholars." Average attendance of that year was one hundred and thirty persons which would constitute an approximate attendance of 76 per cent of the members. Sunday School contributions totaled \$176.74 in comparison to a total church contribution of \$1,585.76.

The next superintendent recorded in the Association minutes was E. Y. Webb, who served in that capacity from 1897 until 1903 when he began a 17-year tenure as United States Congressman. The church then elected C. C. Roberts as superintendent.

EARLY ROLL LIST

Minutes of Shelby Baptist Sunday school as of January 7, 1883 gave the following roll list: W. A. Nelson, pastor; T. D. Lattimore, superintendent; J. G. Webb, assistant superintendent; J. S. Wray, treasurer; W. W. Green, assistant treasurer; C. S. Webb, librarian; J. W. Sullivan, secretary. Teachers were: J. J. Webb, R. McBrayer, Mrs. P. J. King, Mrs. W. P. Love, Miss E. A. Draugh, Mrs. T. W. Love, Miss Ida Mallory, Miss Anna Mallory, Miss Docia Wray, Miss Laura Wray, Mrs. T. N. Ivy, Miss Lola Milner, Miss Mary Devane, Mrs. M. J. Mallory, Prof. P. J. King, E. H. Wright, Miss Blanch Nelson.

Sunday School superintendents who have served and their years of service are:

T. D. Lattimore	1880-1899	J. C. Newton	1923
E. Y. Webb	1900-1903	John P. Mull	1924-1925
C. C. Roberts	1904-1905	A. C. Lovelace	1926
O. M. Mull	1906	B. T. Falls	1927-1929
George Blanton	1907-1912	Horace Easom	1930-1933
J. R. Moore	1913-1915	M. A. Spangler	1934-1935
J. R. Dover	1916-1919	Horace Easom	1936-1947
J. J. Lattimore	1920-1922	Wilbur Wilson	1947-1953
	Roland Leath	1954-1969	

Up until the year 1904, the beginner and primary aged children had attended classes of their parents. Mrs. George L. English separated the beginners and primaries and for the first time the children were taught by methods appropriate for their age level with pictures and stories aiding their understanding. This was the beginning of grading by ages in Sunday School.

Growth comparisons show that five years after 1880 the Sunday School enrollment had jumped to approximately 350 and by 1910 this figure had reached five hundred (500). Upon occupation of the educational addition to the building, records reveal a milestone in growth gains for the year 1929 as the enrollment jumped to approximately 1,300.

For a period before the educational building was occupied, classes met in the old red brick building with white columns on West Marion street which was originally the Shelby high school before it housed the

seventh graders and before construction of the new junior high addition.

The new Sunday school rooms were dedicated on Easter Sunday, March 31, 1929 with the school reporting an attendance of 1,083 for that Sunday. The Sunday school of 1929 was graded by age for all classes up through the Young People's Department. Continuing to climb in numbers, by 1948 a total enrollment of 1,637 was reached.

The largest number ever present any Sunday in Sunday school up to this time was during a revival April 15, 1934 when there were 1,583 present.

Between January 23-28, 1949, the North Carolina State Sunday School clinic was held in the church, the clinic sponsored jointly by the Sunday School Department of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Sunday School department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville and churches in the Kings Mountain Association.

Only once has Sunday school been interrupted. Because of the polio epidemic in the summer of 1948 classes were suspended in August and did not reconvene in the church until October. Children were quarantined from all public gatherings during that time but Sunday school lessons were broadcast over radio stations each Sunday morning until the polio ban was lifted on October 2, 1948. All churches observed "Children's Day" the first Sunday they returned.

The new educational building which was dedicated on October 25, 1953, offered further room for growth and expansion. By this time the Sunday school had been completely graded by age from the youngest to the oldest classes.

MATERIALS

Records do not show when the first printed materials were available for use in planning and teaching lessons. However, by January of 1866 some literature was published regularly for it was then that Elder Tillman R. Gaines began editing and publishing the Baptist Church and Sunday School Messenger, which was printed periodically at the Shelby Book and Job Office. Pastor Gaines' material was only published for six months.

Literature was later available through the Baptist Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and thus Southern Baptist literature was finally furnished for all of the First Baptist Church organizations.

Minutes of the church dated March 4, 1903 read that "a teacher's meeting also for benefit of Sunday School has been instituted to meet on every Wednesday night after prayer meeting. The ladies society having made request to place a new memorial window over the church door, upon motion their request was granted, the same being a present to Mrs. W. B. Nix by a manufacturing company and at her request becomes the property of the church."

DIRECTORS

Through the years the Sunday school program has been greatly encouraged and guided by the various educational directors, youth workers and assistants who have been employed by First Baptist Church: E. A.

Ruppe, H. M. Pippin, H. C. Seefeldt, Horace Easom, Roland Leath, James Sides, Carole Pearson and Mel Doughy. All have been valuable to the entire program.

Roland Leath of Fort Worth, Texas, joined the church staff on January 1, 1950 to serve as Educational Director and Music Director and has served as Sunday school superintendent for the majority of those years. Prior to his administration, the Sunday school council meetings had been held in monthly dinner sessions with the weekly officers and teachers meetings held just prior to prayer meetings. Mr. Leath saw the need for weekly supper planning meetings and for a thorough cognizance on the part of the people as to the structure of the Sunday school, the importance of visitation and the need for real Bible study.

He has stressed the value of training and study courses and accreditation as a means to promote better work toward the effectiveness of the Sunday school. The organization has realized a remarkable growth under the leadership of Mr. Leath, together with first the assistance of Youth Director James Sides and then of Youth Director Carole Pearson before Mr. Doughy came to the church in 1967.

PORTABLE CLASSROOM

In March, 1966, a new means of taking the church to the people was devised through the loan of a portable classroom large enough to accommodate about 25 people. Conceived in discussions between Dr. Joseph McClain, Mr. Leath and the church staff, the Sunday school classroom was located on a vacant lot at the intersection of East Suttle and East Sumter Streets and services were planned for each Sunday morning. Miss Pearson was in charge of music and teaching of younger children and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Causby were on duty to teach older groups. The venture attracted several persons in the beginning but was discontinued after several months.



JOHN MULL CLASS - pictured in 1962, left to right: Carr Mull, Ralph Turner, Bonnie Elliott, Robert Doggett, Ben Shytle, Will Spangler, Marvin Hall, W. A. Dunlap, John Wacaster, Clark D. Harrill, Paul Wilson and Will Queen.

CLASSES NAMED

Several classes in the Sunday school have been named for dedicated church men and teachers. The Gardner and Newton classes are not in existence at this time but were named for O. Max Gardner and J. C. Newton. Others that are now being taught and for whom they are named include: Morgan - O. Z. Morgan; Mull - O. M. Mull; Mull - John P. Mull; Johnson - George Johnson; Angel - W. L. Angel; Spangler - J. Edwin Spangler; Lawrence - Rev. John E. Lawrence; Zeno Wall - Dr. Zeno Wall; Laura - Laura Cornwall.

TAUGHT OVER 50 YEARS

Mrs. D. W. Royster, who has taught the Nursery Class of three-year-olds for 50 years and who previously taught in the primary grades in Sunday school for three or four years, holds the active record for greatest



Mrs. D. W. Royster

number of teaching years among today's teaching staff. However, probably the longest record in total number of years for work on the Sunday School staff is held by Mrs. Lollie Mae Lattimore who was superintendent of the Cradle Roll for 20 years and taught an additional 40 years or more to accrue at least 60 years of service.

Mrs. Royster observed 50 years with the class of three-year-olds in June, 1969, recalling that she began teaching that class in 1919 when she was married and when Mrs. C. J. Woodson was a teacher. She also recalled that among her first little students were J. L. Suttle, Jr., Gerald and Charles McBrayer and Caroline Blanton Thayer.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Holding the perfect attendance record at First Baptist is R. Hubbard Hamrick who has attended each Sunday for 31 years. Elbert Costner, Boyce Freeman and Judy Hoyle have 18 years of perfect attendance and others include: Mrs. Elbert Costner, 16 years; Fred Swift, 15 years; Robert Causby and David Causby, 12 years; Joseph M. Wright, Susan Martin and Patty McBrayer, 10 years; Max Daves, Jack Caudill, Edwin Speagle and Mrs. Boyce Freeman, nine years; Sarah Speagle, Marvin Baugham, Libby Allen and Mrs. A. L. Moss, eight years; Donald Costner, seven years; Joe Yates, Jo Anne Yates, Stanley Martin, Bill Sherman, Charles Swift, Jeri Ann Mauney, six years; David Poston, Sandra Martin, Robin Mintz and Susan Swift, five years.

Others who held perfect attendance records for a period in recent years include: Worth Branton, 16 years; Betty Sue Wilson Cook, 15 years; Ernest Bailey, 14 years; George Southard and Roscoe Morgan, 13 years; Frankie Bailey and Troy Bailey, 12 years; Jimmy Bailey, 11 years; Zeb Beam, 10 years; Perry Sellers, eight years; Betsy Hope Lee, Debbie Hoyle, Mrs. Hubbard Hamrick and Clair Lohr, six years; Mrs. Delane Davis, five years.

CLASSES - DEPARTMENTS

Sunday School classes and departments today are as follows:

Adult: four departments, 27 classes.

Married Young People: one department, two classes.

Career Young People: one class.

College Young People: one class.

High School Young People: 10 classes.

Intermediates: two departments, 12 classes.

Juniors: two departments, 13 classes.

Primaries: two departments.

Beginners: four departments.

Nurseries: six departments.

Ranking fourth in the state in Sunday school attendance, there are a total of 1,883 members on the roll with average attendance at 1,050.

General officers in 1968-69 include: Sunday school superintendent, Roland Leath; associate superintendent, Carlos Young; minister of music, Van H. Ramsey; minister of youth, Mel Doughty; substitute teachers, Joe Wright; associate, A. C. Farmer; secretary, B. S. Greene; literature, Frank Blanton; substitute teacher, Mrs. George Carpenter; visual aids, W. D. Kiser; librarian, Mrs. A. V. Nolan.

Mrs. John Ed Davis, Jr. is superintendent of the Extension Division. Serving under her as superintendents are Mrs. Willis McMurry, Mrs. C. C. McMurry, Jr., Mrs. Harvey Mincey and W. A. Dunlap.



NURSERY for the youngest children is located in the educational building. Fifteen beds accommodate infants who are cared for here to allow parents to attend regular services. Germicidal lamps, kitchenette and necessary accessories are provided.



LADIES LOUNGE is the scene of wedding receptions, special meetings, luncheons and social gatherings. Located in the educational building, this room was dedicated in memory of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Weathers by their children, Lee B. Weathers, Mrs. H. Dixon Smith and J. Flay Weathers.

HISTORY OF WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

As in all histories, there must be a beginning date for the account of the W. M. U. of the First Baptist Church of Shelby. Available information shows that in 1889, just one year after the Southwide W. M. U. was organized in Richmond, Virginia, the state office in Raleigh, North Carolina, reported that the First Baptist Church of Shelby gave \$60 for foreign missions. This amount may seem small, but for that day it was very significant.

In 1891, with the Reverend G. P. Hamrick as pastor, this church (with 283 members) and the W. M. U. sent \$34.65 to missions.

Perhaps to show the beginning of pledges for mission work, it is recorded in the associational minutes that in 1893 Mrs. G. P. Hamrick pledged \$1.00 for state missions at the associational meeting and the First Baptist Church pledged \$31.00. It is well to note that this is the first recorded gift to state missions.

There evidently was a decline in the church between 1893 and 1896, for the membership on the latter date was 200 and only \$12.00 was given to missions of any kind.

Then came a step in the right direction, for in 1897 a Sunbeam Band was reported.

No definite information for 1898 is available but the Southern Baptist report of that year says, "Women were being recognized and were giving liberally to missions."

In 1900 the church climbed back to the 1889 record and, according to the Association records, this church again pledged \$60 to foreign missions with the W. M. U. pledging \$5 and the Young Ladies \$10. This is the first mention of Y. W. A. gifts.

"Firsts" are always important and in 1902, Mrs. A. E. Harrison is listed as the first president of the society. The membership was 23 and the total gift was \$28.54. Following Mrs. Harrison was Mrs. George English, who served as president in 1904.

Woman's work was now coming into prominence as revealed in the Associational report of 1905 which called for a report on woman's work to be made at the next session. The records show that Mrs. W. B. Nix was president in 1927-1928, and it is probable that 1929 was the year that Mrs. T. W. Hamrick served in this capacity. Although no president is named in 1930, the W. M. S. gave \$3,028 that year, so surely there

was good leadership.

The significant event of the term of Mrs. J. A. Liles, 1931 and 1932, was the organizing of the McMillan Circle.

During her extended term of office, Mrs. Rush Stroup, 1933-1938, accomplished much for the growth of the W. M. U. In 1934 the W. M. S. entertained the Associational W. M. U. meeting with Miss Kathleen Mallory as the guest speaker. Also an outstanding event of Mrs. Stroup's term was the W. M. S. celebration of its golden jubilee year in 1938.

In 1939 Mrs. B. M. Jarrett was president with things moving at an even pace.

In 1940 Mrs. Rush Stroup returned as president and served through 1945. During this period there were a number of significant changes. Among these, the circles were redivided to enable more women to know each other; the Heck Circle was re-activated; the Vena Aguillard Circle was formed; the first Business Women's Circle in the association was formed; and in 1945, the W. M. S. was host to the Royal Ambassadors of the Hickory Division.

It was while Mrs. Fred Swift, 1946-1948, was president that the women of the Association helped raise funds for the president's home at Gardner-Webb College. Mrs. Rush Stroup led the women of the First Baptist Church to give \$1,000 for this project. Also during this period the First Baptist Church celebrated its centennial, 1947, with Mrs. J. M. Dawson of Texas and Washington, D. C., as one of the capable speakers. In 1947 the Business Women's circle was organized.

Because Miss Attie Bostick was for so many years a faithful missionary in China, it will be of interest to note that the W. M. S. gave her a shower before her marriage to Mr. T. J. League in 1947.

"Like mother, like daughter"—Mrs. George Carpenter, daughter of a former president, Mrs. W. J. Roberts, became president in 1949 and served through 1950. Among the events of this period was the forming of the first morning circle, the Frances Eskridge Roberts Circle. Also the Kathleen Mallory Circle was organized, and in 1950 the Hickory Regional Meeting was held in this church.

While Mrs. Lowery Austell was president, 1951-1952, the time of circle and general meetings was reversed and the Young People's work was reorganized. A memorable event was a visit to the society by Miss Ina Belle Coleman in 1952.

A significant change was made in the by-laws of the W. M. S. while Mrs. Cecil Gilliatt was serving as president, 1953-1954. "No woman may be president unless she has first served on the executive board, and no president may serve more than two years."

While Mrs. John Wilkins was president, 1955-1956, the Laura Cornwell Circle was organized.

Mrs. Alton Hopper succeeded Mrs. Wilkins and served in 1957-1958. During this time one new circle was organized, the Hickory Region held its leadership conference here in 1958, and the W. M. S. received an advance award.

The next president was Mrs. John Ed Davis who served in 1959 and

1960. During her term of service, Royal Service and the young people's magazines were put in the church budget. Another important accomplishment was the change from one to two general meetings each month to meet the needs of the women who work each day. During both years the society was rated as an Advanced Society.

It was under the leadership of Mrs. Paris Yelton, 1961-1962, that the society adopted the "B" plan. This means that there are two complete sets of officers—one for the day circles and one for the night circles.

In 1963-64, Mrs. Harold Causby was W. M. U. President. During this term the Baptist Jubilee was celebrated with a combined program honoring the pastor, the Reverend John Lawrence, and a Jubilee gathering of all W. M. U. organizations. A day long prayer retreat was held one year. Both years the Day W. M. U. received an honor award and the Night W. M. S. an advanced award.

Mrs. Lloyd Bost was installed as the 1964-65 W. M. U. president on September 8, 1964 and during her term the W. M. U. Kings Mountain Associational meeting was held in the church in April, 1965.

Miss Laura Cornwell was president for the 1967-68 year and during her term of office mission emphasis for foreign and home missions was stressed through churchwide offerings and study course. Intercessory prayer was also encouraged and promoted through the Kathleen Mallory Circle. Also, Day and Night WMS Societies achieved honor ratings.

PRESIDENTS OF WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

Mrs. A. E. Harrison	1902	Mrs. Rush Stroup	1933-1938
Mrs. George English	1904	Mrs. B. M. Jarrett	1939
Mrs William Archer	1906-1910	Mrs. Rush Stroup	1940-1945
Mrs. C. J. Woodson	1911-1912	Mrs. Fred Swift	1946-1948
Mrs. L. W. Swope	1913	Mrs. George Carpenter	1949-1950
Mrs. W. H. Blanton	1914	Mrs. Lowery Austell	1951-1952
Mrs. William Archer	1916	Mrs. Cecil Gilliatt	1953-1954
Mrs. Colin Hull	1917	Mrs. John Wilkins	1955-1956
Mrs. W. J. Roberts	1918-1919	Mrs. Alton Hopper	1957-1958
Mrs. S. A. McMurry	1920-1921	Mrs. John Ed Davis	1959-1960
Mrs. J. R. Dover	1922-1924	Mrs. Paris Yelton	1961-1962
Mrs. John Suttle	1925-1926	Mrs. Harold Causby	1963-1964
Mrs. W. B. Nix	1927-1928	Mrs. Lloyd Bost	1965-1966
Mrs. T. W. Hamrick	1929-1930	Miss Laura Cornwell	1967-1968
Mrs. J. A. Liles	1931-1932		

NEW ORGANIZATION

Strong winds of change blew through the Woman's Missionary Union in the fall of 1968 as the Southern Baptist Convention inaugurated a new plan of organization for its women's work.

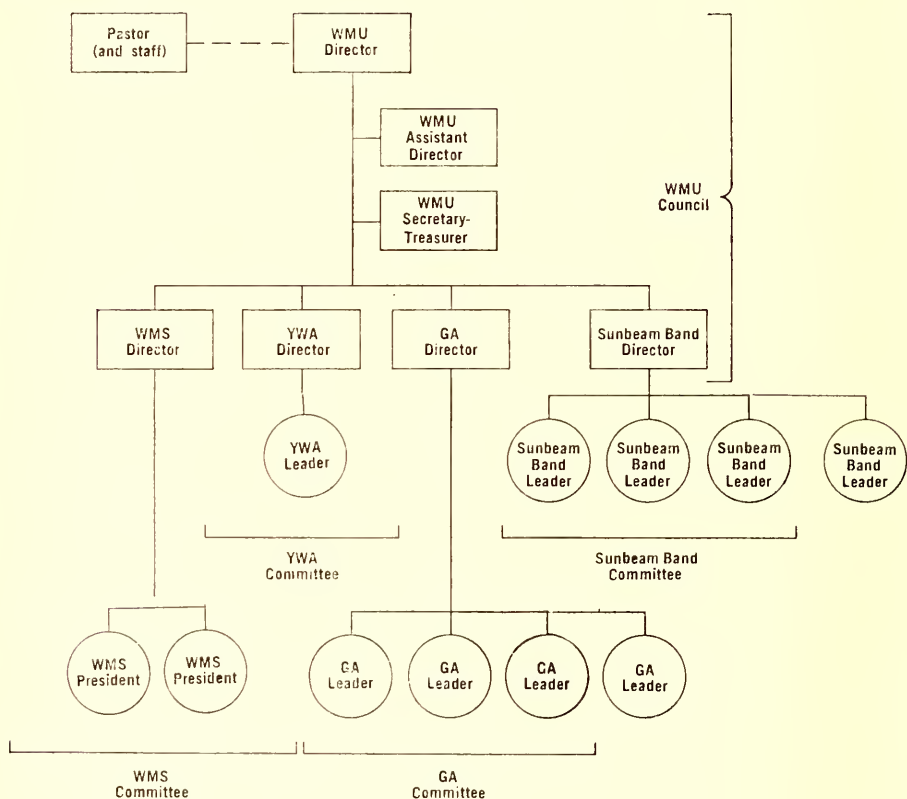
Following this plan, the W. M. U. of First Baptist Church was re-organized under the direction of a W. M. U. Council. The council consists of the W. M. U. director, associate director, secretary-treasurer and age level leaders, i.e. W. M. U. director, Y. W. A. director, G. A. director and Sunbeam director. This council is charged with the overall

direction of the program of the W. M. U.

The W. M. U. director and associate director work with the pastor, church staff and leaders of other church organizations on the church council while age level directors work with leaders of the groups in their age level organizations. Each Woman's Missionary Society has a president, secretary, and a study chairman, prayer chairman and activity chairman. Each chairman oversees the organization and work of W. M. S. groups within her specific field of interest.

Separate study groups are organized for current mission study, mission books, missionary round tables and study of the missionary message of the Bible. Prayer groups include those who meet for the study and practice of intercessory prayer, and a telephone group engaging in prayer for specific needs. Mission action groups are organized to render specific missionary effort on a long range basis. Several of these have been formed to work with groups such as handicapped students, special education classes, the Boy's Club, mental health and well-baby clinics.

The organizational chart for the W. M. U. of First Baptist is now as follows:



W. M. U. officers for the year 1968-69 are:

W. M. U. Director: Mrs. J. A. West

W. M. U. Associate Director: Mrs. Mickey LeCroy

W. M. U. Secretary-treasurer: Mrs. Crawley Cash

W. M. S. Director: Mrs. Newlin Schenck

Y. W. A. Director: Mrs. Robert Lee Eskridge

G. A. Director: Mrs. Nelson Causby

Sunbeam Director: Mrs. James Beard

Day W. M. S. officers for 1968-69 are: president, Mrs. Gerald Osborne; secretary, Mrs. Charles Senn; study chairman, Mrs. Harold Causby; mission action chairman, Mrs. Lloyd Bost; prayer chairman, Mrs. W. L. Angel.

Night W. M. S. officers include: president, Mrs. Horace Steadman; secretary, Miss Lois Buice; study chairman, Mrs. C. Robert Doggett; mission action chairman, Mrs. J. Carlyle Smith; prayer chairman, Mrs. A. Vason Hamrick, Jr.

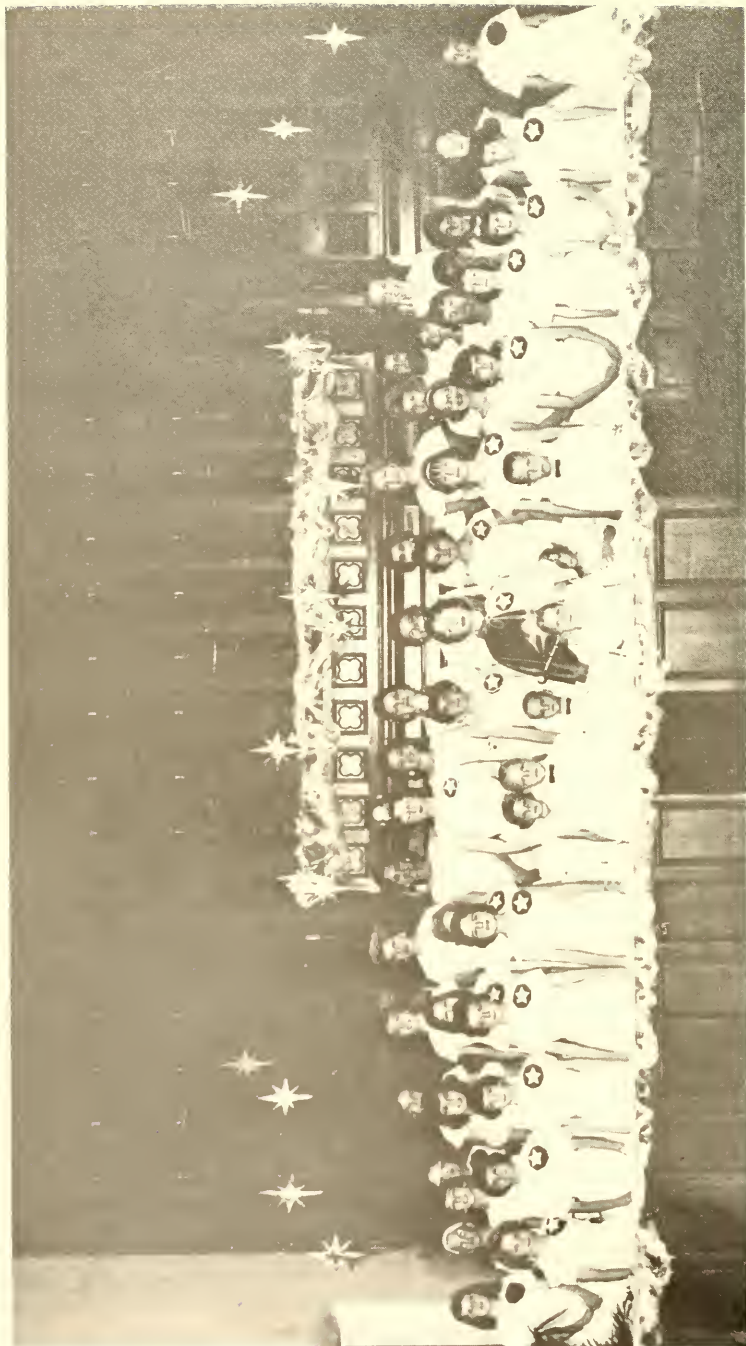
Officers are now elected for one-year terms. Women in the W. M. S. choose the group of which they wish to be a part and each group elects its own group leader.

In carrying out its purpose of encouraging missions through education and participation, the W.M.U. has several special churchwide events during the year. The first week of December and the first week of March are set aside as weeks of prayer for foreign and home missions respectively. The Lottie Moon offering goal for foreign missions is \$13,500 and the Annie Armstrong offering goal for home missions is \$6,500 for the current year.

The Woman's Missionary Union has as its purpose the encouragement of missions through education and participation. The adult division consists of two Woman's Missionary Societies, one for those women who find it convenient to meet during the day, the other meeting in the evening. Each W.M.S. has groups of women whose primary interest is Bible study, prayer, or mission action in the community. Groups meet monthly and there is a monthly general meeting of each society at which programs concerning home and foreign missions are presented.

The Youth Division includes beginner and primary Sunbeam Bands, Girls Auxiliaries for girls ages nine through 15, and the Young Woman's Auxiliary for girls ages 16 to 25. These organizations attempt to educate young people about the world, its people and its needs and to challenge them to world concern. Young people study about missions and participate in missions in ways appropriate to their age and experience.

Although all youth divisions are active, the G.A.s have received particular attention in the last few years. Lynne Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Ed Davis, was the first to attain the rank of Queen Regent in 1962 and since then her two sisters have also attained the rank: Jan Davis in 1965 and Patty Davis in 1967. Queens Regent in 1965 also included Kathy Daves and Lynn Miller; 1966—Patty McBrayer; 1967—Joe Ann Yates; 1968—Gwen Bisette, Pat Chamberlain, Susan Hamrick, Carol Mattered, Lou Ann Scism and Susan Swift.



G. A. CORONATION SERVICE when first Queen Regent, Lynn Davis, was crowned in May, 1962. Front row, left to right: Sue Steadman, Connie Hendrick, Lorraine Mattero, Glenda Wilder, Jan Davis, unidentified child, Robert Raynor, Leonard Hughey, Amy Pounds, Buddy Boyles, Kathy Panther, Kathy Daves, Debbie Phifer. Second row: Phyllis Harden, Madeline Hughes, Jane Aritail, Paula Lionweber, unidentified, Ann Evans, Debbie Hughey, Queen Regent Lynn Davis, Gail Kendrick, Willa Sue Shields, Patty McBrayer, Sherri Weaver, unidentified, Gwen Godwin, unidentified, Jeannie Spangler. Third row: Judy Young, Patty Davis, Nancy Bruce, Beth Henry, Mrs. Alvin Lienweber, Mrs. John Baker, Mrs. Leonard Hughey, Mrs. Bruce Raynor, Mrs. Bill Weaver, Mrs. Hale Bryson, Mrs. Hoyt Keeter, Anne LeGrand, Mrs. Linda Lail, Ann Young, Mrs. Kathleen Henry.

YOUTH DIRECTORS

Full-time youth directors have been employed at First Baptist since June 1, 1958 when the Rev. James B. Sides began this new ministry among the church's young people. Previous to the Rev. Sides joining the church staff, part-time youth work had been shared by church personnel.

In addition to the Rev. Sides, who served until August 23, 1959, others who have been full-time youth directors have been Miss Carole Pearson (July, 1960 - December, 1966) and Melvyn Lee Doughty who entered his duties on May 22, 1967.

Combining the job of young people's worker and assistant music director was Miss Betty Purcell (Mrs. James F. McSwain) who came to First Baptist on September 5, 1948 from First Church in Orlando, Fla., thus wearing the very first title as young people's director. She continued in her dual role until January 22, 1949 after which she was assistant to the church secretary for a short time. Miss Purcell, who brought her merimba to Shelby and played it on numerous occasions, was a native of Glenville, Ga., and studied at Georgia State College for Women at Milledgeville, Ga.

The specific purpose of the youth ministry is to develop a yearly program of activities to aid in the religious-social development of the youth of the church. Among the activities and features involved in the work of youth directors are the annual youth camp, Baptist Youth World Conference, youth council, conferences and retreats, drama, afterglows, spotlighting youth in regular services, banquets, etc.

Rev. and Mrs. Roland Leath and Rev. Sides supervised and directed a group of forty-three young people and four adult counselors to the fifth Baptist Youth World Conference in Toronto, Canada in the summer of 1958.

In 1968, Mel Doughty supervised seven delegates who attended the Baptist World Youth Conference in Berne, Switzerland. Delegates included Bob and David Causby, Richard Chamberlain, Sherry Weaver, Kathy Rogers, Kathie Royster and Suzie Connor. Adult chaperones were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Causby and Mrs. Doughty.

Youth Week is observed annually in special activities at the church when young people assume places of responsibility during Sunday School, Training Union and both worship services. A climax of Youth Week generally is a drama presented at the closing Sunday night service.

The church hosted the annual North Carolina State Training Union Youth Convention April 29 through May 1, 1966 with young people from over the state coming to Shelby for the three-day session. Theme of the convention was "Jesus Revealed in Me" and Nathan Porter, associate

secretary for missionary personnel of the Home Mission Board in Atlanta spoke in two sessions on missions and pressures on youth. John S. McGee, missionary to Nigeria for 21 years gave an illustrated lecture on Baptist work in Nigeria to conclude the convention.

In July, 1967 Mr. Doughty began a "Coffee House Ministry" in quarters in the old Shelby Creamery which had been purchased by the church. Purpose of the coffee house, named the King of Hearts, was to reach young people with the Christian message in a manner that appealed and was relevant to them. The program consisted of folk singing, dramas, art interpretations, readings, skits, and stunts. Different singing groups sang and usually the main message came through drama. The coffee house was moved to the basement of the Clyde Short building in the summer of 1969 after the creamery building was leveled to provide additional parking.

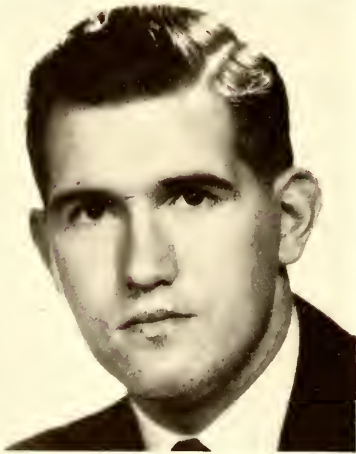
Mr. Doughty also started the King's Players drama group in the church, the group participating in 32 plays with 95 presentations to date. The drama group, numbering 30, performed in Raleigh, N. C., Richmond, Va., Washington, D. C. and New York City during the Easter holidays in 1969 when they presented "Every Man". Between August 3 and August 16, 1969, a group of 22 toured 17 states performing the same drama.

The church's youth group, under Mr. Doughty's ministry, sponsored a retreat at Ridgecrest March 21-23, 1969 when 475 young people participated, including 90 from First Baptist. The group is anticipating another retreat at Ridgecrest.

One new program was instituted in the summer of 1968 when a junior camp was held at Camp Lurecrest. The group from First Baptist numbered 100 the first year while 120 attended in the 1969 session.

REV. SIDES

The Rev. Sides, who was ordained at First Baptist on September 23, 1956, accepted the first youth directorship after having been pastor of Mull's Chapel Church for almost two years. He took the job with the understanding he would serve only until the late summer of 1959 at which time he would begin studies at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. While at the Seminary he was also pastor of Pine Ridge Baptist Church in Franklin county and continued there as pastor for three years after attending the Seminary. In 1964 he returned to Cleveland County to pastor Pleasant Grove Baptist Church and continued his ministry there until January 1, 1968 when he was called to First Baptist Church of Wadesboro. Native of Canton, he is married to the former Anita Hoyle and they have one son.



MISS PEARSON

Miss Carole Le Verne Pearson, native of Dermott, Arkansas, accomplished much good work among the youth of the church during her six years as youth director. Coming to Shelby July 9, 1960, she had received her B.A. degree from Ouachita Baptist College in Arkadelphia, Arkansas in 1958 where one of her favorite professors, Dr. Joseph T. McClain, encouraged her to further her studies in youth work. She later served a short time under Dr. McClain's pastorate at First Baptist after she received her Master of Religious Education degree (1960) at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

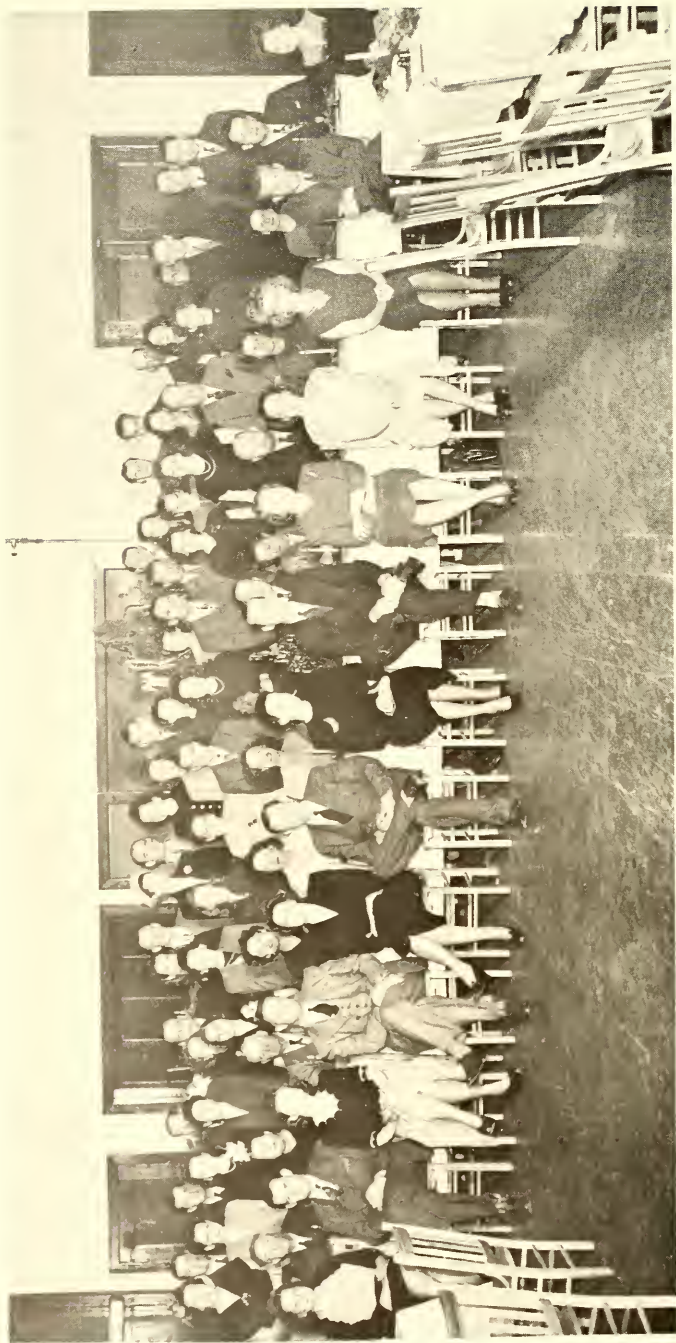


Miss Pearson's youth program was outstanding for weekend revivals, Vacation Bible Schools, music and drama.

MR. DOUGHTY

Mel Doughty, native of Mayfield, Ky., succeeded Miss Pearson on May 22, 1967 after he had worked at Belmont Baptist Church in Roanoke, Va. Educated at Murray State University at Murray, Ky., where he received his B.S. degree, he also received his M.R.E. at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. serving two churches while in the Seminary.

Married to the former Pat Whitthorne of Mayfield, they have two children, Laura and Pam, and a foster daughter, Pat Shelton.



FIDELIS CLASS with husbands at Christmas (1947) social — front row, left to right: Mrs. Norman Patriek, Mrs. Ralph Putnam, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Edwards, Ray Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Wilson, Mrs. Lyman Martin, Mrs. Joe Laughridge, Mrs. Mal Spangler, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Short. Second Row: Mr. and Mrs. Horace Eason, Dr. and Mrs. B. M. Jarrett, Mrs. Ray Bruce, Mrs. Mamie Forney Bridges, Dr. and Mrs. Zeno Wall, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Angel, Mrs. Malcolm Spangler, Lyman Martin. Standing: Mrs. Carl Hand, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Elam, Mr. and Mrs. James Beam, Mr. and Mrs. John Hendrick, Mr. and Mrs. John Irvin, Jr., Mary Sue Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Randall, Elizabeth Sweezy, Clara Sweezy, Dr. and Mrs. Clyde Blanton, Mrs. Jean Moore Thompson, Mrs. Fred McBrayer, Mrs. Nadine Ellis Brown, Robert F. Spangler, Fred McBrayer, Lois Buice, Mrs. Robert F. Spangler, Mrs. Charles Waldrop, Gilman Brown, C. T. Smith, Charles Waldrop, Mrs. Gilman Brown, Mrs. Charles Wells, Jr., Mrs. C. T. Smith, Charles Wells, Jr., Mrs. Claude Lucas, Mr. and Mrs. Harley Olsen, Claude Lucas, Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Wilson, Mrs. John Dixon, Ralph Putnam, Malcolm Spangler.

BROTHERHOOD

The nine stately Japanese ginkgo trees that stand between the First Baptist Church building and North LaFayette Street, while planted for another purpose, might well be considered as "living monuments" to the church Brotherhood.

The transplanting of these trees — one for each of nine servicemen from the First Baptist Church who died for their country during World War II — was one of the initial, if not the first, projects undertaken by the Brotherhood after its organization.

In the spring of 1947, about a year and a half after the cessation of hostilities of World War II, a group of consecrated veterans, many of whom having had narrow escapes in battle, felt that they wanted to band themselves together in some kind of organization to promote the Lord's work.

The result was the establishment of what they called the Veterans Brotherhood. There were approximately 30 laymen as members.

First president of the group was F. O. (Red) Champion, who later became the first president of the Brotherhood in the Kings Mountain Association and, still later, president of the state brotherhood organization.



F. O. Champion

Other officers elected were: J. Ollie Harris, vice-president; Pegram Holland and Rush Hamrick, Jr., secretaries; and Harold Reber, treasurer.

In this same year, Horace Easom, who for several years had served as director of music and education at the First Baptist Church, was elected State Brotherhood Secretary and was asked to spearhead a campaign to raise one and a half million dollars through the Baptist churches of the state for the purpose of relocating and enlarging Wake Forest College. He was also asked to serve as executive secretary of the Baptist Foundation.

It was natural that Mr. Easom came back to his own Veterans Brotherhood and began encouraging it to take the lead in "beefing up" the brotherhood program — still in its infancy — in the association. At that time there were no such men's organizations in the association. But,



SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAINING WEEK held in the First Baptist Church auditorium September 16-20, 1935 was captured in this picture. On right side may be seen H. C. Seefeldt, L. L. Morgan and A. V. Washburn, Jr. (state S. S. workers), Dr. Zeno Wall, John P. Mull, Mrs. Raymond Cline, Flossie Grice, Mary Lewis Wilson, Mrs. Ralph Beatty, Mrs. A. V. Washburn, Jr., Kathleen Davis, Nita Benton, Mrs. W. A. Pendleton, J. H. Quinn, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Washburn, Mrs. G. P. Hamrick, Mrs. Major Hopper, Mrs. Pansy Fetzer, Lalene Grigg, J. F. Ledford, Joyce Wilson, Mrs. Harvey Wray, Sara Lee Hamrick, Mrs. Hudson Hartgrove, Mal Spangler, Mrs. W. V. Meicalf, Mrs. J. C. Whitaker, Mrs. Rush Stroup, Mr. and Mrs. Fields Young, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Ledford, Ruth Moss, Mrs. Hamby, Miss von Hagla (state S.S. worker), Mrs. George Webb. On left side are: Mrs. Cap Freeman, Mrs. Charles Eskridge, Mrs. Sallie Mauney, Mrs. Mal Spangler, Mrs. J. A. L. Angel, Mrs. H. D. Wilson, Miss Kate Webb, Mrs. Charles Eskridge, Mrs. Sallie Mauney, Mrs. Mal Spangler, Mrs. J. A. Liles, Mrs. Earle Hamrick, Evelyn Webb, Mary Louise Benton, Grace Gaddy, Wyan Washburn, B. T. Falls.

just a short while later, there were 48 Brotherhood groups in the Kings Mountain Association, and the movement was catching on around the state. And, within the next five or six years, Mr. Easom reported more than a thousand organizations in North Carolina.

At the outset of this movement, the name of the group was changed from Veterans Brotherhood simply to First Baptist Brotherhood, and all male members of the church became eligible for membership.

Simultaneously with the planting of the Japanese ginkgo trees — which were chosen, perhaps, for two reasons: their slow growth and because many of the Veterans Brotherhood members had served in the Far East — the Brotherhood began exploring areas of possible assistance in the field of missions.

Much of the credit for the steady increase in foreign missions support that has personified the First Baptist Church of Shelby among other churches of the state, in recent years, may go to the Brotherhood.

With an objective of sending one medical missionary to Japan, the Brotherhood found itself contributing to the support of some 10 or 12 missionaries at one time. And one member of the group, personally, supported a medical missionary to China. At some later date, the church assumed the financial undergirding and the direction of the mission work.

The planting of the trees and the budding mission program were, however, but two of a number of significant programs initiated and carried out by the First Baptist Brotherhood.

Shortly after the coming of Dr. Harlan Harris to the First Baptist Church, first as assistant pastor and then as pastor, the Fisherman's Club was organized within the Brotherhood for the express purpose of visiting in behalf of the church and winning souls for Christ.

Again, much of the credit for the present Baptist Laymen's Witnessing Foundation, which has headquarters at Hickory, N. C. and which schedules and conducts revivals by laymen throughout the Southeast, must go to the First Baptist Brotherhood of Shelby. This Baptist foundation was set up as a result of the interest of F. O. Champion during his term of office as state brotherhood president.

There are other brotherhood projects that have been of immeasurable value to the church, one of the more noteworthy of them being the sponsorship of the Royal Ambassadors. Other projects include the Brotherhood Chorus, which sings one Sunday evening in each month; service in helping the handicapped to attend church services; distribution of food and other necessities to needy families; and so on.

"Baptist Men's Day" is observed one Sunday annually when laymen take over responsible duties in regular services, such as reading the Scriptures, leading prayers and special music.

The planting of the ginkgo trees, which took place on the sixth anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, was only a beginning.

Down through the years, since 1947, a number of other First Baptist laymen have led in a fine way, and the Brotherhood has grown, both

in number and in its effectiveness.

Presidents succeeding "Red" Champion as the first president were: O. V. Hamrick, Jr., 1948; L. J. (Bill) Baley, 1949; J. Reid Misenheimer, 1950; Mal A. Spangler, Jr., 1951; Jack Ramsey, 1952-53; James Kendrick, 1954; J. Lowery Austell, 1955; George V. Byrd, 1956-57; W. B. Wilder, 1958; James Wright, 1959; J. C. Bissette, 1960-61; Ralph Blackstock, 1962-63; Paul Wilson, 1964; Glenn Brooks, 1965; George Hamrick, 1966; Hugh Mauney, 1967; and Lloyd Bost, 1968-69.

The Brotherhood has a membership of approximately 110 members at present but in 1967 had 214 members enrolled for the largest membership of any church in the state.

TRAINING UNION

Records reveal that the first Training Union organizations were set up at First Baptist in the fall of 1912 with E. A. Ruppe, the church's first paid director of education and music, leading in the organization which was then called the Baptist Young Peoples Union . . . or more familiar, BYPU.

During the years between 1912 and 1929, the BYPU grew to include seven organizations. While the church was undergoing a renovation and remodeling program in 1929 services were held in the old Shelby High School building and while meeting there leaders made definite plans to enlarge the training program and the name was changed to the Baptist Training Union. The new name emphasized the new purpose of training adults as well as young people.

As new church facilities were completed and reoccupied, eleven unions were organized and active, one of which was an adult union led by J. A. Liles. The entire organization was departmentalized almost along Sunday School lines and grew very rapidly, in 1963 becoming the largest Training Union in the state of North Carolina. In fact, the TU has always been recognized by the state leaders as one of the largest and has held a reputation for excellence in the Baptist State Convention.

Of interest in the early Training Union period was the farming of the "Baby Union" when mothers came with their little children and remained in the room while the program was being carried out. Often there were as many as 50 in the group.

Another attractive feature of the Training Union was that of the "Closing Assembly" which was held in the church auditorium prior to the evening service. Large groups attended to enjoy some special feature which would interpret the purpose of the TU and much time was spent in preparations for the regular Sunday evening program. An illustration is that of carrying out a wedding when "Miss Training Union married Mr. Preaching Attendance."

There are currently three adult departments with eight unions; one department with three unions for young people; one department with five unions for intermediates; two departments with eight unions for juniors; three primary departments; three departments for primaries; and four nursery departments.

Training Union enrollment stands at 545, which ranks in fifth position in the state.

Leaders in the BYPU and TU through the years include:

E. A. Ruppe	1912-1913	Wyan Washburn	1935-1936
	1920-1921	Horace Easom	1937-1946
H. M. Pippin	1924-1927	Wilbur Wilson	1947-1948
J. O. Reynolds	1927-1928	L. T. Hamrick	1949-1958
John A. Liles	1928-1929	W. D. Kiser	1959-1963
Horace Easom	1930-1934	J. C. Bissette	1964-1969



RECEIVED CURVED BAR in 1962: seated, Vicki Stallings, Virginia Raynor, Carol Rollins, Patsy Love, Cathy Smith, Susie Kendrick. Standing, Daria Wilson, Gayle Baker, Marsha Young, Elizabeth Ann Hamrick, Barbara Wolfe, Toni Strickland, Jane Ann Best, Lynn Spangler.



TU PROGRAM ON MISSIONS in 1963: Jane Spangler, Patty McBryer, Lee Eskridge, Sue Steadman and Drew Hendricks.

SCOUTING

Few churches can boast of its prominence in a nationwide movement as can the First Baptist Church when relating to the Boy Scout program for it was one of the church's most stalwart members, Judge E. Y. Webb, who introduced in the United States Congress the bill which led to the national charter of Boy Scouts of America.

Judge Webb, who had always been a strong supporter of scouting and at the time was a Congressman, led an effort before Congress which was climaxed on June 15, 1916 when both houses granted to the scouts a national charter. In 1923 Judge Webb headed the organization of the first Boy Scout troop in Cleveland County which was at Shelby's First Presbyterian Church. The second Boy Scout troop to be organized was at First Baptist Church in 1927 with Henry B. Edwards as Scoutmaster and Dr. H. S. Plaster assistant.

The Piedmont Council was also organized by Judge Webb and was first comprised of five counties. Today the council involves Scouting in 11 counties.

The First Baptist Church troop was formerly called Troop No. 2 when organized by Edwards and Dr. Plaster in 1927 and has been a continuous charter since. The two leaders were also active in initiating troops at Belwood, Dover and Shelby Mill.

In a transition period all over the council, individual troops were given new numbers and the church troop on a re-registration in February, 1961 became Troop 101. Since 1967 the county has been officially known as the Battleground district of the Piedmont Council.

Scouts in the early troops will no doubt retain fond memories of their first camping trips which took them to the E. F. McKinney farm on North LaFayette Street Extension. Mr. McKinney allowed the troop to use a site at the bend of the river and it was not long before the scouts built a log cabin about 40 feet long and 35 feet wide which afterwards housed much of the scouting activities. The scouts gathered at the church on Friday afternoons, especially in the summer and early fall, and in uniform marched to the cabin "army style." They worked on their various merit badges and enjoyed swimming in the river.

Among the first scouts to enjoy the program were Alfred Eskridge, George Blanton, Jr., Joe and Lyle Thompson, Zeno Wall, Jr., Oakland Morrison and H. A. Logan, Jr.

In the early years of scouting, the troop put on demonstrations and participated in competitive events in a roped off portion of the street at the corner of Marion and Washington. The Cleveland County Fair has

always offered space for Scout exhibits in which the troop has entered.

The opening of Lake Lanier at Tryon in 1927 was simultaneous with the church's scouting program and enhanced its popularity among the youngsters. Scoutmaster Edwards accompanied his troop on an encampment to Lake Lanier the first summer of its operation and it has since been a regular event. In fact, the first years of scouting in the church were very active and held much interest among the boys 12 years of age and older.

Later years found the scouting program carried out in the metal building back of the church, just outside the kitchen. Today scouts meet in the Clyde Short building where much of the youth program is carried out.

Scout week is observed annually in February and one service during the month highlights the Scouting movement. Scouts from the church also participate in local activities each year when city and county governments turn their offices over to them for a day.

EAGLE SCOUTS

Among those from First Baptist who have attained the Eagle rank are: Mal Spangler, Jr., Alfred Eskridge, Zeno Wall, Jr., George Blanton, Jr., Edward Washburn, Oakland Morrison, H. A. Logan, Jr., Edwin Spangler, Eugene Poston, Jack Ramsey, Avery W. McMurry, Rush Hamrick, Jr., Rush Hamrick, III, Dick Lackey, John A. Wells, David Royster, Dahl Freeman, Dennis King, Harry L. Nolan, Jr., Bob Yelton, Don Yelton, Ben Gilliatt, Bryant Wilder, Max Daves, Jr., Charles Nolan, Vance Suttle, Harry Ramsey, Teddy Booker, Steven Costner, Charles P. Swift and Jimmy Swift.

ACTIVE LEADERSHIP

Many persons have been active in the church's scouting program and devoted many years of service but probably the most enthusiastic and dedicated tenures have been those of Dr. H. S. Plaster who, since the formation and chartering of the troop, has served in about every capacity. Too, he has fulfilled many duties in the Cleveland district, which is now known as the Battleground district. In addition to his work with the church troop he has served as president of the Piedmont Council (1965-67); chairman of the Piedmont Council Health and Safety Committee (1953-64); and is at present vice president of the Council. He has received scouting's highest honors: the Scouters Award, the Scoutmaster's Key, Silver Beaver and Wood Badge.

At impressive ceremonies on February 13, 1968 at the Piedmont Council Scout Banquet, Dr. Avery W. McMurry and John McMurry received the highest honors the Council can confer on adult leadership - the Silver Beaver Award. This was an unusual event in that never before had brothers received the award simultaneously.

It is also believed that the church is one of very few which can boast of having three members who have been awarded the Silver Beaver.

Dr. McMurry has served seven years on the district level, first as vice chairman and then chairman of the Cleveland District. He is presently

on the advisory committee of the Piedmont Council. He organized and is chairman of the Medical Explorer Post at Cleveland Memorial Hospital and in July, 1969 served as Medical officer at the Seventh National Jamboree in Farragut, Idaho. John McMurry has worked with Exploring for 10 years and served as advisor to the Explorers in the Council cabinet. He is presently training chairman for Exploring in the Piedmont Council.

J. Alvin Propst, who organized the Belwood troop in 1928 and was scoutmaster at First Baptist in the early 1930s, earned 110 merit badges in his scouting career which spanned 25 years. An Eagle scout, he won the Scoutmasters Key and was chairman of the Piedmont Council for several years.



ACTIVE SCOUTERS—left to right: James Jordan, Dr. H. S. Plaster, Dr. A. W. McMurry, John McMurry.

SCOUTMASTERS

Records of the scouting program at the church have not been kept in permanent file through the years and it has been difficult to determine years of service of many leaders. It is believed the names of Scoutmasters and their terms are as follows:

Henry B. Edwards	1927 through 1930
J. Alvin Propst	1931 through 1934
Dr. Wyan Washburn	1935 through 1937
H. A. Logan, Jr.	1937 through 1939
J. Alvin Propst	1940 through 1942
Dr. B. M. Jarrett	1943 through 1944
Jack Ramsey	1945 through 1949
Ted Riviere	1950
Harold W. Causby	1951 through 1953
Julian W. Hamrick	1954 through 1957
Robert K. Wilson, Sr.	1958
Dr. Hubert Plaster	1959 through 1963
Charles A. Horn	1964
Dr. John D. Baker	1965 through 1967
W. Gerald Osborne	1968 through

CUB SCOUTING

The Cub Scout program was officially chartered November 29, 1953 at First Baptist with R. K. Wilson as leader and Randolph Martin assistant. Wilson, who has been active in scouting many years, continued as cub leader until 1957 when Ed Young became leader and served for nine years, until 1966. Young was awarded the Scouter's Key for helping set up cub packs over the county. David Jay succeeded Young and continues in his role today as cub leader.

GIRL SCOUTS

The Girl Scouts were organized at First Baptist in 1944 and chartered in 1945. Among the first leaders were Miss Carolyn Williams (Mrs. Jimmy Freeman), Miss Millie Hicks (Mrs. W. J. Jones, Jr.) and Miss Margaret Long (Mrs. Bob Callahan).

Several girls in the church earned their Curved Bars, the highest award bestowed, before Girl Scouting was discontinued as a church program.

First to receive the Curved Bar in June, 1955 were Montrose Meacham and Lynn Blanton.

In February, 1961, under the leadership of Mrs. C. H. Blanton and Mrs. Jimmy Blanton, the following received the Curved Bar: Jonanna Allen, Elizabeth Ann Blanton, Cindy Blanton, Rosalind Ramsey, Lynn Hamrick, Cecilia Butler, Diane White, Judy Jones and Patty Bowers.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Ned Smith and Mrs. John Kendrick, those who received the Curved Bar in March, 1962 were Jane Ann Best, Toni Strickland, Lynn Spangler, Patsy Love, Marsha Young, Virginia Raynor, Elizabeth Ann Hamrick, Vickie Stallings, Susie Kendrick and Cathy Smith.

PASTORS

1847 — 1969

REV. JAMES MILTON WEBB

First Pastor

First pastor of First Baptist Church was James Milton Webb, native of Rutherford County who accepted the pastorate on June 19, 1847 and served until December 23, 1849. He was for many years a leading minister of Cleve-

land and Rutherford counties and also served both the Broad River and the Green River Associations as moderator and clerk.

Born October 7, 1802, he grew to young manhood on his father's farm in Rutherford county, and the first years of his life were perhaps no more eventful than those of many other young men of his day. However, he did secure an education above the average for his day, entering the ministry in 1833 and ordained in 1834.

He was elected to the North Carolina General Assembly from

Rutherford County at the age of 26 and represented Rutherford County in the N. C. Legislature in the years 1828, 1830 and 1831. In addition to being a legislator and a minister, he was clerk of superior court of Rutherford County for 16 years, from 1833 to 1848, and a newspaper editor and publisher.

At one time in Rev. Webb's career he was a newspaper editor, minister, and clerk of court at the same time.



Twice married, his first wife was Miss Katherine White and to this union were born thirteen children, ten sons and three daughters. His second wife was Miss Nancy Hampton and to this union were born two sons and one daughter.

The Rev. Webb died April 24, 1854 and was buried in the garden of his old home and later moved, in June, 1966, to Concord Baptist church in Rutherford county where he held his first pastorate from 1834 until December 1848.

Rev. Webb was the great-grandfather of Shelby's beloved Mrs. O. Max Gardner who died January 16, 1969 at the age of 83.

REV. M. C. BARNETT

Second Pastor

Serving the Shelby Baptist Church in two different pastorates, the Rev. M. C. Barnett came first on December 31, 1849 and continued until November 30, 1850. He accepted a second call to the church on January 22, 1866 and remained until December 31, 1870.

Born May 20, 1818 in Spartanburg County, S. C., his early education was very limited but by hard work and constant devotion to his studies he became one of the best educated men of his day. The Rev. Barnett was ordained a Baptist minister in March, 1843 at Cedar Springs Church, his home church near Spartanburg, S. C.

He was married to Miss Nazareth Lipscomb.

Rev. Barnett died in Shelby on September 20, 1872 and was bur-

ied at El Bethel Baptist Church in York County, S. C.



REV. WADE HILL

Third Pastor

Wade Hill was pastor of Shelby Baptist Church three different times, having come first in January, 1851, and continuing until December of the same year. His second pastorate began February 10, 1860, and continued until December 31, 1860, and his third time on November 25, 1870, until December 31, 1875.



Born in Rutherford County July 21, 1813, Rev. Hill's parents were unable to give him the advantage of an early education, and it was known that the high character he acquired as a preacher was due to his deep piety, sound common sense, and unceasing efforts to educate himself in the work to which he was called.

He became the leading preacher in this entire section during his active ministerial life from about 1840 until 1875. He was a pioneer champion of temperance at a time when it required a great deal of courage to do so.

Rev. Hill was married in August, 1834, to Miss Temperance Leebetter.

Death came on December 11, 1875, in Rutherford County.

"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might." Deuteronomy 6:5

REV. A. J. CANSLER

Fourth Pastor

A. J. Cansler was born May 26, 1825 in Lincoln County and was educated in the Lincolnton schools before going to the University of North Carolina where he studied law, graduating in the class of 1847.



Rev. Cansler began the practice of law but gave it up shortly after his marriage to Miss Mary Ann Martin of Wilkes County, an accomplished lady and devoted christian. He was converted and baptized by the Rev. Wade Hill who influenced him to become a minister, and was ordained to preach in 1850.

He was pastor of Shelby Baptist Church from January, 1853 until December 31, 1856.

He also published for a short time in Shelby "The Carolina Intelligencer", which was the first or second newspaper published in Cleveland County. He moved to the state of Arkansas and after residing there for a few years died on February 24, 1872.

Son of Sheriff Henry Cansler of Lincoln county, Rev. Cansler's diary revealed that he baptised 3,000 persons during his ministry. He was elected clerk of the Broad River Association in 1853.

It was said that the Rev. Cansler indulged too freely in pipe smoking and folks said that the excessive use of tobacco was an evil. His diary showed that he baptized around three thousand people during his ministry.

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold." Proverbs 22:1

REV. THOMAS DIXON

Fifth Pastor

Thomas Dixon was born December 24, 1820 in what is now Cherokee County, South Carolina—just across the state line near Grover and the Kings Mountain Battlefield.



He was the son of David and Suzannah Hambright Dixon and a grandson of Frederick Hambright, hero of the Battle of Kings Mountain. His father died at an early age, leaving him to support his mother and three younger children on the farm. His mother lived to be one hundred and four years of age.

At the age of eighteen, he was baptized at the Antioch Church near Grover and was ordained to preach in 1844. In 1848 he married Amanda Elizabeth McAfee, youngest daughter of Abner McAfee. To this union

were born three sons and two daughters. . . One of the sons, A. Clarence was a preacher; Tom, Jr. was a lawyer, preacher, author (famous for "The Clansman" which was "Birth of a Nation" on the screen), actor and motion picture director; and Frank was a preacher and lecturer. Of the daughters, Delia Dixon Carroll was the first woman doctor in North Carolina and was physician at Meredith College. Addie Dixon Thacker was a writer.

The Rev. Dixon fell heir to thirty-two slaves from his father-in-law and in 1860 he migrated to Little Rock, Arkansas with his slaves where land was cheaper and the agitation over slavery less acute. When slaves were freed, his slaves left to be on their own also. However, within a year all had returned and asked him to take them back. They told him they enjoyed better food, clothes and attention while they were with him than they had known since their freedom. Due to the Northern occupation of the

South, it was not possible for him to take them back.

In 1851 the Kings Mountain Association was organized and Thomas Dixon was first moderator.

He served as pastor of Shelby First Baptist Church from January to December, 1857 and from January to December, 1859.

In 1881 he served four churches at the same time—Antioch and Buffalo in South Carolina and Sandy Run and New Bethel in North Carolina. For his year's work in these churches he received \$100 plus poundings from his church members. He was pastor of the Buffalo Church for more than 40 years and of New Prospect Church for 55 years.

He was buried at New Prospect May 1, 1909.

The Rev. Dixon organized twenty Baptist churches, baptized over 6,000 persons and married more than 5,000 couples. He was never late for any of his services.

DR. E. A. CRAWLEY

Sixth Pastor

A very learned person and widely traveled, Dr. E. A. Crawley twice served as pastor of Shelby Baptist Church. His first pastorate began on January 1, 1861 and continued until February 15, 1863 while his second pastorate was

a very short one—from September 3, 1864 until January 1, 1865.

Born in England and brought up in Canada, Dr. Crawley graduated from Kings College, Nova Scotia in 1819. He gave up the practice of law in 1827 and studied Biblical Interpretation under Professor Moses Stuart at Andover, later was ordained at Providence, Rhode Island in 1830. Brown University honored him in 1846 with the Doctor of Divinity Degree.

He was pastor of Granville Street Baptist Church in Halifax, Nova Scotia for thir-



teen years and became president of Acadia College in Nova Scotia in 1854.

Dr. Crawley came to the United States about 1860 and spent seven years in this country, returning to Canada in 1867 to again become president of Acadia College.

He also served as principal of the Roberts Female Academy in Shelby.

REV. TILLMAN R. GAINES

Seventh Pastor

Born October 27, 1834, Tillman R. Gaines was a native of Greenville, South Carolina. He attended rural schools during his youth and was taught to farm until he was fifteen years old at which time he learned the carriage

making trade at home in his father's shop, where he worked until he was twenty years old.

Entering Furman University in 1854, he studied literary and scientific courses, graduating in 1860.

After graduation the Rev. Gaines studied a year at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, leaving the seminary in the fall of 1861 to volunteer as a private. He entered Company A, 16th S. C. Regiment, and served about one year as chaplain.

He became pastor of Shelby Baptist Church in February, 1863 and while here organized "The Shelby Female Academy." Also during his pastorate here the first Sunday School was organized with the Rev. G. M. Webb assisting him in 1864.

In his later years he turned his attention from the ministry to other lines of activity, mostly the editing of religious papers in South Carolina.

He was married to Miss Julia Ellen Gaffney.

It is recorded that he baptized fifty people during his ministry as pastor of Shelby Baptist Church.



DR. NEEDHAM B. COBB

Eighth Pastor

Dr. Needham B. Cobb came to Shelby Baptist Church in January, 1870 and continued his ministry here until December, 1872, later becoming president of the North Carolina Baptist Convention in which capacity he served from 1879-1881.



Born in Jones County, North Carolina on February 1, 1836, he was graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1854 and taught school in Wayne and Cabarrus Counties for three years. He then studied and practiced law for a few years before entering the ministry. He was a member of the Episcopal Church until 1859 when he became a Baptist and was ordained to preach in 1860.

Dr. Cobb was chaplain of the 4th N. C. Regiment during the Civil War from 1862

until the end of the war. He became corresponding secretary of the Sunday School Board and served as pastor of Baptist churches at Elizabeth City, N. C., Portsmouth, Va., Shelby, Rockingham and Fayetteville.

Dr. Cobb and Dr. J. D. Hufham, both of whom were to become pastors of Shelby Baptist Church, published The Daily Record in Raleigh after the Civil War. At one time Dr. Cobb was state superintendent of the Baptist Sunday School Board. He was the first person to receive the M. A. degree at the University of North Carolina in 1856. The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him in 1889 by Judson College and he was also the first shorthand teacher in North Carolina and was known as a historian of his state and his denomination.

Rev. Cobb was the father of Collier Cobb, a child prod-

igy and Kenan Professor of Geology at the University of North Carolina for 40 years who died at age 72 in 1943. Rev. Cobb's daughter, Lucy M. Cobb, died July 6, 1969 at age 91 at her home in Chapel Hill. She was the author of A Gift for Penelope, Gaius and Gaius, Jr. and The Preachers Three.

REV. A. L. STOUGH

Ninth Pastor

A. L. Stough was born in Hamburg, Germany on February 28, 1825 and was educated for the Catholic priesthood in Hamburg. However, he came to Norfolk, Va., in 1847 and became a Baptist, studying theology under Dr.

George W. Purefoy for two years before becoming a Baptist preacher in the Sandy Creek Association of Virginia. He was a chaplain in the Confederate Army during the War Between the States.



Pastor of Shelby Baptist Church from 1875 through 1879, Rev. Stough was a Baptist preacher for more than 60 years. He left Shelby to preach in Mecklenburg County until his death on December 28, 1909. He is buried in the cemetery at Flint Hill Church in York County,

S. C., where he preached for 19 years.

The Stough Memorial Church in Pineville, N. C. was organized by him in 1903.

"Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your hearts before him." Psalm 62:8

REV. J. A. WHITE

Tenth Pastor

The Rev. J. A. White's pastorate at Shelby Baptist Church was very short, from March 15, 1880 until August 26, 1880 and is the shortest on record of this church. He moved to Shelby as principal of Shelby High School



and rendered satisfactory service there for several years, according to records, and it was while he was serving as principal that he pastored this church.

Born in Winston-Salem on November 1, 1846, he was educated at Wake Forest College and followed both teaching and preaching careers for about fifty years. After leaving Shelby he was pastor of the Blacksburg, S. C. Baptist Church as well as being principal of the high school there.

In 1892 he moved to Taylorsville and there organized the Taylorsville Collegiate Institute, now out of existence. In 1898 he moved to Lenoir where he was principal of the school there and later taught in the Appalachian Training School at Boone. He moved to Murphy, taught there, and finally returned to Taylorsville where he died April 5, 1922.

He was married to Miss Maggie Sharpe of Alexander County, and four of their seven children were born in Shelby.

Rev. White was the uncle of Rev. Lee McBride White who was pastor in 1917-18.

"Keep my commandments, and live: and my law as the apple of thine eye." Proverbs 7:2

DR. W. A. NELSON

Eleventh Pastor

Dr. W. A. Nelson was born in Jefferson County, Tennessee on July 1, 1837 and graduated from Carson-Newman College in 1859. He was ordained to preach in 1860.

Dr. Nelson served as pastor of the Shelby Baptist Church from August 26, 1880 until September 30, 1883. While here he was largely instrumental in further promoting the Shelby Female College which for a number of years rendered great service to the young womanhood of this section.



It was during this pastorate that the church and Sunday School first took a decisive step forward, the secret of Dr. Nelson's success being that he found a place for every member to work and put the member to work in that place.

He was at one time president of Judson College and held many prominent pastorates after leaving Shelby.

"And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in that my house may be filled." St. Luke 15:23

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Revelation 3:20

REV. R. D. MALLARY

Twelfth Pastor

The Rev. R. D. Mallary served three interim pastorates of Shelby Baptist Church, the first from September 30, 1883 until January 1, 1884; the second from September 1, 1885 until November 1, 1885; and thirdly, from August 10, 1887 until November 15, 1887.



Born in South Carolina and reared in Georgia, Rev. Mallary was ordained to the work of the ministry in Albany, Ga. He was also head of the Shelby Female College for several years.

Before the Civil War he was connected with the Georgia Female College, Madison, Ga. Following the Civil War he was head of the Union Female college at Eufala, Ala., and for six years before coming to Shelby was president of Shorter College in Rome, Ga.

“Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.” Psalms 106:1

“A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.” Proverbs 15:1-2

REV. W. B. BUSSEY

Thirteenth Pastor



The Rev. W. B. Bussey, native of Georgia, served a little less than two years as pastor of the Shelby Baptist Church, resigning to accept a pastorate in his native state.

Much of the spirit of progress manifested by the church under Dr. Nelson continued under Rev. Bussey. The Christ-like spirit of this faithful servant won for him the love of all who knew him.

His pastorate was from January 1, 1884 until September 2, 1885

Little else is known or has been recorded of Rev. Bussey.

DR. W. H. STRICKLAND

Fourteenth Pastor



Dr. W. H. Strickland served as pastor from November 1, 1885 until June 27, 1887. He was a man of marked ability and of learning but his pastorate was too short to accomplish a great deal in church progress.

Very little is known of his work after leaving this pastorate except that he became corresponding secretary of the South Carolina Home Mission Board.

REV. J. M. McMANAWAY

Fifteenth Pastor

The Rev. J. M. McManaway was born in Virginia, educated at Richmond College and at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was pastor of churches in Virginia, Indiana and Kentucky before coming to North Carolina where he served

pastorates at Wilson, Tarboro and Shelby. After leaving Shelby he pastored churches in Louisiana and Missouri.

It was during his pastorate at Shelby Baptist from November 15, 1887 until June 1, 1890 that the second building was erected on the present church site. He was remarkably successful in leading the church to do greater things in a financial way as well as spiritually.

Rev. McManaway was considered a good pastor and Bible preacher, referring to scriptures as background for all his propositions. He held several prominent pastorates after leaving Shelby Baptist Church but was an invalid for a number of years prior to his death in 1922 in the state of Virginia.

"Bless the Lord O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name." Psalm 103:1

"I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvelous work." Psalm 9:1

REV. G. P. HAMRICK

Sixteenth Pastor

The carillon bells in First Baptist Church that are heard today were dedicated in memory of the Rev. and Mrs. G. P. Hamrick by their son, Earle A. Hamrick and family in 1945.



Much of the progress in the Baptist denomination in this section of the Carolinas is owed to the leadership of the Rev. Hamrick, who was pastor of this church from July 1, 1890 until February 1, 1892. Ordained in January, 1880 he held pastorates in Grover, Boiling Springs, Asheville, Biltmore, Canton and Shelby in North Carolina; Buffalo, Pacolet and Fingerville in South Carolina.

Rev. Hamrick was born in Cleveland County near Boiling Springs on August 23, 1849 and joined the Boiling Springs church in 1863. He was educated at Wake Forest College from which he graduated in 1879, and also graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Rev. Hamrick was married to Miss Sarah (Sallie) Anthony, also of Cleveland County, on Christmas Day, 1884. Rev. Hamrick died October 15, 1924 and Mrs. Hamrick died in the spring of 1944. Both are buried in Sunset cemetery.

In addition to the ministry Rev. Hamrick was a successful business man and was connected with Limestone and Hamrick Mills in Gaffney, S. C. He was instrumental in the organization of Eastside and Dover Baptist churches. His pastorates spanned a period of forty years.

REV. J. L. SPROLES

Seventeenth Pastor



The Rev. J. L. Sproles has been First Baptist Church's only bachelor pastor and he served from February 1, 1892 until March 5, 1894. He held many prominent pastorates after leaving the Shelby church.

A young man of striking personality and a good preacher, the Rev. Sproles was a roommate at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary of the Rev. John W. Suttle, Baptist minister of Cleveland county for 65 years, and he officiated at the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Suttle in 1893.

Rev. Sproles was pastor when Miss Ollie Hamrick, the church's oldest member, was baptised and she has in her possession a small Testament he gave to her when she was a member of the Sunday School class he also taught.

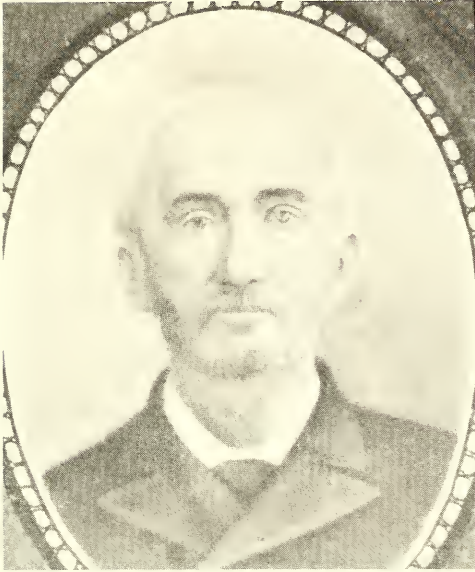
Rev. Sproles moved to California shortly after leaving Shelby and corresponded with Rev. and Mrs. Suttle for a short while. Nothing has been heard from him since early 1900.

"Know ye that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture." Psalm 100:3

DR. J. D. HUFHAM

Eighteenth Pastor

Dr. J. D. Hufham was born on May 26, 1834 at Mebane, N. C. and received his education in the Mebane schools and Wake Forest College, from which he graduated in 1856.



Dr. Hufham was an active and leading member of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and held many positions of honor and trust. He was corresponding secretary of the convention and editor of the Biblical Recorder during the Civil War years of 1861-1867. The Biblical Recorder was the only religious paper in the south that continued publication during the Civil War.

Dr. Hufham served this church as pastor from May 1, 1894 until October 1, 1896. He died in Mebane on March 27, 1921.

"The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence." 2 Samuel 22:3

REV. R. F. TREDWAY

Nineteenth Pastor

In the six years the Rev. R. F. Tredway pastored First Baptist Church he greatly endeared himself to the church and to the people of this community. Beginning his pastorate in 1896, he continued until December, 1902 when he resigned to become pastor of Clayton Street Church in Montgomery, Ala.



Born at Chatham, Va. on December 25, 1858. Rev. Tredway was the son of W. M. Tredway and Rebecca C. Martin and one historian said "he came into the world with some of the best Virginia blood flowing in his veins."

As a mere lad he was converted and baptized under the preaching of Dr. W. S. Penick, a lifelong friend.

After his college and theological course he was called to some country churches in his native Virginia where he did faithful and lasting service. In 1894 through the influence of Dr. Penick he went to Louisiana and accepted the care of the church at Mansfield and it was here he met Miss Margaret (Margie) Cunningham, a beautiful, gifted and consecrated young lady to whom he was married in 1897.

Following a most successful pastorate at Mansfield he was called to our church and after leaving Shelby for the Montgomery church, he later returned to Mansfield to do another splendid work as pastor where it was written that "No man has ever made the empress upon the Mansfield church and community that this man did."

From Mansfield he went to the First Baptist Church of Camden, Ark., and here he was in his last pastorate and did his crowning work as pastor. Later he returned to

Louisiana and was called to the evangelistic work under the State Mission Board. After a year's successful service he was called as an evangelist by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and his work here until his death was eminently satisfactory. In the very last meeting he held in Alabama, there were more conversions and additions to the church at which he preached than any other in the campaign. He returned from this meeting and died a few days later of pneumonia on January 3, 1913.

DR. W. D. HUBBARD

Twentieth Pastor

Dr. W. D. Hubbard came to the Shelby Baptist Church after resigning his pastorate at Tabernacle Church in Raleigh and served our church for more than one year. His pastorate began on January 11, 1903 and concluded on February 14, 1904, and he accepted the call with the understanding that it would be temporary.



During his brief ministry here, he endeared himself to every member of the church and to all citizens of Shelby. He went from Shelby to Troy and then to Greensboro, Alabama.

Dr. Hubbard preached the Thanksgiving and Dedication service on the 75th anniversary of our church in 1922.

"A good man obtaineth a favour of the Lord; but a man of wicked devices will he condemn." Proverbs 12:2

REV. M. E. PARRISH

Twenty-first Pastor

The Rev. M. E. Parrish came to Shelby from First Baptist Church in Salisbury and served almost five years, from February 24, 1904 until November 1, 1908. He left Shelby to accept a pastorate at Portsmouth, Va., where he served with marked success until his death on June 11, 1910.



Rev. Parrish was a man of marked ability and enthusiasm and it is written that he accomplished much for the Master while pastor of this church. He had the desire to erect a new building while he was here but the church was not ready to undertake this task.

Rev. Parrish was a native of Virginia and graduated from Richmond College with an M. A. Degree in 1888.

“Lying lips are abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight.” Proverbs 12:22

“And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in that my house may be filled.” St. Luke 15:23

REV. CHARLES AUGUSTUS JENKINS

Twenty-second Pastor

The Rev. Charles Augustus Jenkins pastored First Baptist Church from 1908 until 1911 and it was during his pastorate the third church building was conceived and erected.



He was graduated from the University of Virginia and it was while a student at the University that he left the High Episcopal Church and joined the Baptist Church. This was considered a disgraceful act by his family but he was ordained a Baptist minister. He met Miss Lily Cocke while at the University and after they were married they moved to North Carolina.

Warsaw, N. C., was the young preacher's first pastorate. Other pastorates included Louisburg, Statesville, Goldsboro, New Brunswick, New Jersey, Ox-

ford, Chapel Hill, New Bern and back to Goldsboro. His last active pastorate was in Shelby.

The Rev. Jenkins' mother was born Rosalie Carter, daughter of King Carter of Virginia. It is interesting to note that King Carter was the grandson of George Washington's sister, Betty Lewis, who was the wife of Fielding Lewis.

After retirement, Rev. and Mrs. Jenkins moved to Clayton, N. C. where their rose garden, grape vineyard, beautiful lawn and rare vegetables were known and acclaimed far and wide. His retirement was short-lived, however, because he accepted a call to the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church five miles from Clayton and he later served Zebulon Baptist Church, twenty-five miles from Clayton. While standing in this pulpit on April 9, 1922, a messenger arrived to tell him that his wife had suddenly passed away.

Five years later Rev. Jenkins died.

Rev. Jenkins authored several books, among them *The Bride's Return*, *What Made Me A Baptist*, *Good Gumption* and *Christ On The Phone*. He also edited *Baptist Doctrines*.

LEWIS WALTER SWOPE, D. D. Th. M., B. A.

Twenty-third Pastor

Rev. L. W. Swope received a call from the First Baptist Church which he accepted in December, 1911 and served until June, 1916 when he took a leave of absence to go with the National Guard to Texas where Mexican Border trouble had erupted.



Born August 28, 1878 in Linside, West Virginia, Rev. Swope was one of nine children of William and Rebecca Swope. He was graduated from the University of West Virginia and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. His first pastorate was at Green Bay, Wisconsin and others followed at Newberry, S. C., McCall, S. C., Louisburg, N. C. and then at Shelby.

After accompanying the National Guard to Texas, he was commissioned captain and chaplain of the First North Carolina Infantry Regiment in May, 1915 and later enlisted in the regular army as captain and chaplain and served until 1918 when he resigned his commission to accept a call from the church at Boiling Springs. He served as pastor of this church for two years and also taught Bible in the Boiling Springs High School before going to Erwin, Tenn.

The next few years were spent in ministerial work in churches in Tennessee, West Virginia and North Carolina, serving New Hope Church at Earl and Elizabeth Church

near Shelby.

In 1936 Rev. Swope built a home near Shelby where he lived until his death on January 25, 1941. He is buried in Sunset Cemetery in Shelby and two of his children are buried beside him.

Although six children were born to Rev. and Mrs. Swope, only three grew to adulthood. Two sons and a daughter are still living—Dr. Ralph E. Swope and Mrs. Russell Gwinn of New York City and Paul W. Swope of Charleston, West Virginia. Mrs. Swope lived in New York after Rev. Swope's death until she died on June 26, 1963.

In addition to his brilliant "sermonizing," Rev. Swope was in much demand as a speaker for public occasions. His memory for faces and names was remarkable and he rarely forgot anyone whom he had ever met.

DR. LEE McBRIDE WHITE

Twenty-fourth Pastor

Dr. Lee McBride White served a short pastorate at First Baptist beginning in March, 1917 and continuing until June 15, 1918.

Born August 9, 1887 in Raleigh, Dr. White was

graduated from Wake Forest College in 1908 and did graduate work at Cornell University before going to the Southern Baptist Seminary. His first pastorate was at Monroe, N. C. and then at Shelby, after which he held pastorates in Chester, S. C., Kinston, N. C., Riverside Baptist in Jacksonville, Fla., and at the West End Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala.

While living in Chester, S. C., twin sons were born to Dr. and Mrs. White, both born spastic paralytics. Since that time Dr. White has devoted a great

part of his time to work with handicapped children and he



founded the Lee McBride White School for the Handicapped in Birmingham on November 6, 1936. Daring to lead the way in this work, Dr. White gave up a secure and brilliant career as a Baptist minister to plunge at the age of 50 into the task of schooling afflicted children, particularly spastic paralytics. Since founding the Lee McBride White school, over 1,500 children from 28 states have been helped.

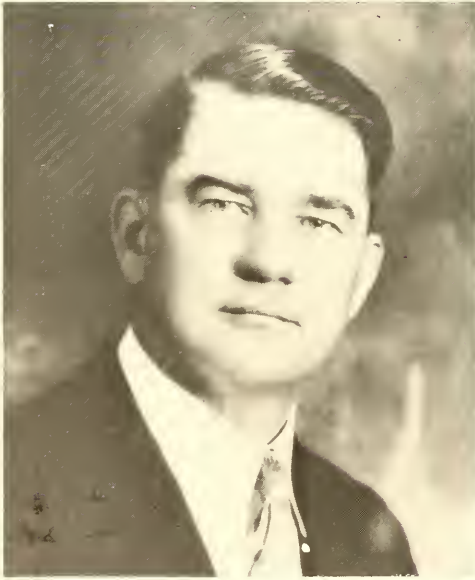
Dr. White died October 4, 1968 at his home in Birmingham.

REV. J. MARCUS KESTER

Twenty-fifth Pastor

Rev. J. Marcus Kester was called to First Baptist Church on April 15, 1919 and served until December, 1922. From Shelby he went to the Baptist headquarters in Richmond, Va. to serve as secretary of the Foreign Mission

Board, later accepting a call from the First Baptist Church in Wilmington, N. C. in 1924 where he served until his death in 1936.



Born April 26, 1887 on a farm in Cleveland County near Kings Mountain, he was a son of John H. Kester and Margaret Bird Kester. His earliest known ancestor was John G. Kester, one of the early German settlers coming south. He attended the poorly equipped schools of that day and was converted in a meeting held at Bethlehem Baptist Church when he was fifteen years old.

Rev. Kester entered Mars Hill College in the fall of 1908 and graduated three years later, entering Wake Forest College in September, 1911 from which he was graduated in 1913. He attended the Newton Theological Sem-

inary from 1913-1917 and did special work at Oxford University in England and at Edinburg University in Scotland.

Mrs. Kester lives in Charlotte, N. C. and their 10 children, all living, are: five daughters—Gwendolyn, Evelyn, Kathleen, Carolyn and Marilyn; five sons —Jack, Truett, Mel, Robert and Howard. There are 40 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

DR. ROBERT L. LEMMONS

Twenty-sixth Pastor

Dr. Robert L. Lemmons was a native of Missouri and was a graduate of William Jewell College, the Baptist College of Missouri, and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.



He came to First Baptist Church from Salisbury on March 1, 1923 and held the pastorate here until September 1, 1925 when he resigned to return to his native state of Missouri to be with Mrs. Lemmons' mother, a widow in very poor health.

While serving our church, 136 persons were united in membership.

Dr. Lemmons returned to this state and was residing in Charlotte when he died on August 6, 1939. He

and Mrs. Lemmons, who survives, were the parents of one daughter, Mary Ruth Lemmons.

Rev. Lemmons and his family were the first to occupy the second parsonage which was built and furnished while he was pastor. The parsonage was considered to be one of the finest of its day.

DR. ZENO WALL

Twenty-seventh Pastor

Dr. Zeno Wall wrote: "In the spring of 1925 the Hon. O. Max Gardner called on me in Goldsboro where I was serving as pastor of the First Baptist Church, and told me about your church and its golden opportunities, saying:

'It is a sleeping giant, and we believe you could wake it up and lead it forward to great things.'

"He then asked if I would be willing to visit this field and see the people and let them see and hear me. I told him I had never preached a 'sample sermon' but that I would visit the church on August 30, 1925, as I would be on my vacation at my father's home then.

"I came that Sunday morning and preached from Luke 14:23 on "The Compulsion of Love." You gave my message a good hear-

ing and one of the deacons came and asked me to go out with him. Brother J. H. Quinn called the church into conference and in a short time some of the brethren came and said: 'Our church gave you a hearty and unanimous call and we hope and pray that you will accept'."

Thus began the pastorate of Dr. Zeno Wall at First Baptist Church, which was to be the longest in the history of our church, from October 1, 1925 until January 27, 1948, and the greatest in growth. Membership of the church grew from 736 to over 2,500 with 1,484 received into the church by baptism and 2,095 uniting by letter. The church also increased in gifts from an annual budget of \$28,000 to \$131,225.57.

Born August 20, 1882 near Mooresboro, N. C., he



was a son of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Wall. He was educated in the Rutherford County schools and also attended a private school operated by A. B. Flack. Furthering his education, he went to Mars Hill College and was graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Upon completion of his education in Rutherford County, he set out on a business career with a textile firm in Cliffside and while there received and accepted an invitation to speak in the nearby Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, an experience which confirmed in his heart his call to preach.

His pastorates included Marshall, N. C.; Mount Olive, Miss.; First Baptist, Columbia, Miss.; Mississippi Baptist College from which he entered the Military Chaplaincy in 1916; First Baptist, Goldsboro, N. C.; First Baptist, Shelby, and later in his golden years, Elizabeth Baptist Church near Shelby.

In 1948, already serving as president of the board of trustees of the North Carolina Baptist Children's Homes, he was invited to become general superintendent, serving in this capacity until 1950.

When he reached retirement age, he returned to Shelby but shortly thereafter received a plea to become pastor of Elizabeth Baptist Church, holding this pastorate for five years and again showing his strength in the ministry. He did a marvelous work in rebuilding a magnificent new church after fire destroyed the sanctuary, leading the congregation there in a drive to rebuild the church, using his well-known "treasury chest" for contributions that amounted to \$171,235.15 in nine years. He saw the note for the remaining \$100,000 borrowed burned in special services on February 23, 1964 which rendered the present imposing building debt-free.

Other interim pastorates were held at Eastside, Pleasant Grove, Shady Grove (Gaston Association) and the Kings Mountain Baptist Church.

Many honors came to him during his fruitful ministry. He was president of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention for four terms—1933-1936 and his name appeared in "Who's Who In America" in the 1948-49 edition. He authored three "books of merit" which were published by the Broadman Press of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., and which have had

wide circulation. They are: "Heartening Messages", "Verities of the Gospel" and "A Day for God-Called Men."

In his ministry which covered fifty-six years, Dr. Wall preached in hundreds of churches in Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Kentucky, South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Virginia, and Washington, D. C.

He served as president of Gardner-Webb College (then Boiling Springs Junior College) for two years, without pay, during the trying time of the depression while he was pastoring First Baptist Church.

During the depression year of 1930, literally hundreds of persons walked the streets in Shelby seeking work after the banks and mills had closed and on Christmas, 1930 a "white Christmas" brought clothing, food and money to the church with which Dr. Wall and Horace Easom (minister of music and education) "fed the hungry and clothed the naked." Not long after the church had its greatest revival from the standpoint of additions. One hundred and sixty-one prayer meetings were held in 161 homes before the revival at which Dr. Wall preached and Mr. Easom led the singing. In that depression year revival, 119 persons were baptized and 98 received by letter for a total of 217, the largest number to ever join the church in any one revival.

In Dr. Wall's own words: "On August 20, 1963 we reached the 81st milestone on the road to our eternal home. Our race will soon be run, and the crown of victory won. We thank God for you, and are deeply appreciative of all you have done for us, and we urge you to go on—with courage and faith—to the end of life's journey, and to hear the Lord say: 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.'" (Matthew 25:21).

Elected Pastor Emeritus on September 16, 1951, he continued in that post until his death.

Dr. Wall married Ada Katherine Ramsey who died March 11, 1959 and to them five children were born: Zeno, Jr., Abbie Jane (Mrs. Ollie Harris of Kings Mountain), Yates, Woodrow and Ada Ramsey (Mrs. Walter Fanning of Ridgewood, N. J.)

Dr. Wall died September 12, 1967 and was buried beside his wife in Elizabeth Baptist Church cemetery.

REV. HARLAN HARRIS

Twenty-eighth Pastor

Dr. Zeno Wall was in a meeting at the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Washington, D. C. in 1946 when he met Harlan Harris, who was leading the music for a conference of pastors and evangelists. From that meet-

ing stemmed the decision to call him as assistant pastor of First Baptist Church.

However, the assistantship was short for, having come to Shelby in January, 1948 Harlan Harris became pastor on April 4, 1948.

Born January 5, 1920 in Salem, Oregon, he graduated from Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill., where he was active in football, track and wrestling. He is listed in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities. He received the B. D. degree from the Eastern Theo-

logical Seminary and the Doctor of Divinity degree from Wayland Baptist College in Plainview, Texas.

During his pastorate in Shelby, Dr. Harris was instrumental in the reorganization of the Sunday School and the building of a new educational unit. He meant much to the youth of the church and held Young Life meetings in his home each Monday night and accompanied the group to camp in Colorado each summer. It was also during his pastorate that a church library was established.

Since Dr. Harris was a classmate and close personal friend of Dr. Billy Graham, he was able to secure him for a city meeting at the Armory which was considered a real blessing to the city.

Dr. Harris has served in the following capacities in addition to First Baptist: assistant pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Washington, D. C. in 1946; pastor of First Baptist Church, Plainview, Texas, 1954-1959; he has been



active in Southern Baptist Life; President of North Carolina's Pastors' Conference; and member of North Carolina State Board.

Named Shelby's "Young Man of the Year" in 1952, Dr. Harris has traveled in Europe, Africa, the Holy Land, and Mexico. He has preached in Rome, Cairo and Jerusalem.

His home is currently in Boulder, Colo., where he was in full time evangelistic work before becoming pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Colorado Springs. He and his wife, Madeline, are parents of four children.

Perhaps his love for people and his humility may best be expressed in his own words: "The dedication of the Shelby High School annual to Madeline and me meant much more to me than did my doctorate."

REV. JOHN ELMORE LAWRENCE

Twenty-ninth Pastor

Rev. John Elmore Lawrence began serving as pastor of First Baptist Church on February 15, 1954 and continued until June 30, 1964 when he became pastor of Forest Hills Baptist Church in Raleigh.



He has served Christ and the Baptist denomination in many areas of work, more recently as: representative to the General Board of North Carolina from the Wilmington Association; vice-moderator in the Kings Mountain Association; as second and third vice-president of the N. C. Baptist State Convention; twice serving on nominating committee of the State Convention; served on the resolutions committee, chairman of the Order of Business Committee; Committee of 17.

Also, he has served on the Order of Business Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention and

represented N. C. on the Southwide Brotherhood Commission. He was a trustee of Gardner-Webb College; trustee of Mars Hill College.

The Foreign Mission Board invited Rev. Lawrence to participate in an Evangelistic Crusade in Paraguay, South America in October, 1959.

The budget of First Baptist rose from \$97,000 to \$252,000 under his pastorate and in 1956 the church sanctuary was renovated and air-conditioned. The church, in conference in 1957, adopted for the first time a Church Constitution and By-Laws. In 1959 two lots facing North LaFayette Street adjacent to the church, were purchased for a future site for a youth building and parking lot.

Rev. Lawrence was born December 21, 1916 to William and Kate Dunn Lawrence of Scotland Neck, N. C. He graduated Cum Laude from Wake Forest College with a BA degree and Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Laws degree in 1939. His extra-curricular activities included president and secretary of Golden Bough, led in forming Omicron Delta Kappa, president of Sigma Pi Alpha, senior member Student Council, vice-president and secretary of Philomathesian Literary Society; assistant in the French department, winner of Junior and Senior orator medals; winner of Society Day Oration, vice president of Barrister's Club, member Chi Eta Tau, member Glee Club, member Baptist Student Union council, member BSU choir, officer in college Sunday School classes, member track squad and senior orator at commencement exercises.

He passed the bar examination in 1939 and worked in the Attorney General's Office before joining the Smith, Leach and Anderson Law Firm of Raleigh where he worked for one year.

During a revival in the fall of 1940 in Hayes Barton Church, Raleigh, he renewed his commitment to God and decided to leave the practice of law and for two years he worked among college students as the first Baptist Student Union Secretary for the N. C. Baptist State Convention.

Rev. Lawrence enlisted in the U. S. Naval Reserve in April, 1942 and was commissioned an Ensign and served in active duty in the Pacific War Theater before being discharged on October 24, 1945, two days before the birth of his only child, John Elmore Lawrence, Jr. in Norfolk, Va. Rev. Lawrence was married to Laura Bateman of Columbia, who at the time of their marriage was a BSU secretary at Woman's College in Greensboro.

He was graduated from the seminary at Louisville, Ky. with a Bachelor of Divinity Degree in May, 1949 and pastored Sunset Park Baptist Church in Wilmington from June, 1949 to February, 1954.

DR. FORREST C. FEEZOR

Thirtieth Pastor

Dr. Forrest Feezor served as Interim Pastor of First Baptist from September, 1964 through March, 1965. Someone has said, "To hear Dr. Feezor pray is to know the source of his strength."



One of eight children, he was born July 1, 1892 in Lexington, N. C. and worked on a farm in early childhood. His education included instruction in a one-room log building before attending Wake Forest College from which he graduated in 1920; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and the University of Chicago. He received the Doctor of Divinity Degree from Wake Forest College in 1934.

From 1923 until 1926, Dr. Feezor was professor and director of the Bible department at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri. His pastorates for the period 1926-1953 included Second Baptist Church, Liberty, Missouri; Tabernacle Baptist Church, Raleigh; Broadway Baptist in Fort Worth, Texas; and First Baptist in Waco, Texas. In 1953 he was elected executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, retiring in 1960.

From 1952 until 1955 he was speaker for the Voice of America's shortwave network and in 1958, with the aid of interpreters, he made a preaching tour of the Orient at the invitation of the Southern Baptist Convention's Foreign Mission Board. Since retiring, he and Mrs. Feezor spent a year on the island of Formosa. He served as Interim Pastor of First Baptist Church in Asheville before coming to Shelby.

Dr. Feezor now lives in Dallas, Texas in the winter and at Black Mountain, N. C. in the summer doing evangelistic work.

DR. JOSEPH TOLBERT McCLAIN

Thirty-first Pastor

Dr. Joseph Tolbert McClain was called to First Baptist Church in March, 1965 and served as pastor until October 23, 1968.

Born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on May 27, 1919, he is the son of Eula Chastain and Christian Ray McClain.

Dr. McClain received his B. A. from Oklahoma Baptist University and did his graduate theological work at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. While there he earned the Th.M. and Th.D. degrees.

On graduating from the Seminary in 1947 he was called to begin the Bible Chair at Texas Technological College in Lubbock, Texas and was soon called to be full professor of Bible at the Howard

Payne College in Brownwood, Texas where he served for over three years. He was on the faculties of two Southern Baptist Seminaries, Golden Gate and Midwestern, in their formative years as Southern Baptist institutions. At the Ouachita Baptist College, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, he was divisional head of Religion and Philosophy, remaining in this capacity for five years enjoying a great deal of success in teaching and involvement in the Baptist work throughout the state of Arkansas.

Dr. McClain's pastorates have included Liberty Baptist Church in Duncan, Oklahoma, his first church where he cut his pastoral teeth in the Lord's ministry. The Riverside Baptist Church of Riverside, Texas was the church that put him through the seminary and while pastor there he received both of his advanced degrees, the Th.M. and Th.D. degrees. He ranks this church as an important milestone in his ministerial life.



The First Baptist Church of Seagraves, Texas, was the first great church he pastored in the sense of responsibility and service since in that part of west Texas it is one of the pivotal pastorates. His next pastorate, after teaching at Ouachita Baptist College, was Maywood Baptist Church of Independence, Missouri, the most vital and biggest church of any denomination in Independence. After serving at Maywood Church for five years, he was called to First Baptist at Shelby.

In 1940 Dr. McClain was married to Cleo Cornett of Oklahoma City and five children have been born to this union: Joseph Tolbert McClain II, Barry Duke McClain, William Conner McClain, Darla Ann McClain and Christian Ray McClain II.

Dr. McClain left his Shelby pastorate to become associated with Ouachita College in Arkadelphia, Ark.

REV. GENE L. WATTERSON

Thirty-Second Pastor

The Rev. Gene L. Watterson preached his first sermon as pastor at First Baptist July 27, 1969, coming from Murray Hill Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla. A native of Decatur, Ala., he has served previous pastorates at Woodlawn Baptist Church in Colonial Heights, Va. (1953-60), First Baptist Church of Crestview, Fla. (1960-66), and was associate pastor and minister of youth at the First Baptist Church, Warner Robins, Ga. (1952).

Rev. Watterson received his undergraduate study at Howard College, which is now Samford Baptist University, and Bob Jones University. He did graduate study at Richmond Professional Institute of the College of William and Mary and is a graduate of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has also received special training in clinical counseling at Central State Hospital, Petersburg, Va.

Active in Baptist work, he has served as moderator and chairman of various committees of the Petersburg Baptist Association, moderator and chairman of various committees of the Okaloosa Baptist Association in Florida and pastor advisor to B.S.U. of Jacksonville University. He served in the Florida Baptist Convention as representative of the Florida Baptist Sunday School Department, District 1, 1961-62; member of the State Board of Missions and Education in 1963-66; as chairman of the Expansion Committee, chairman of the committees on Public Affairs, Foreign Missions and nominations; and as a

member of the program committee.

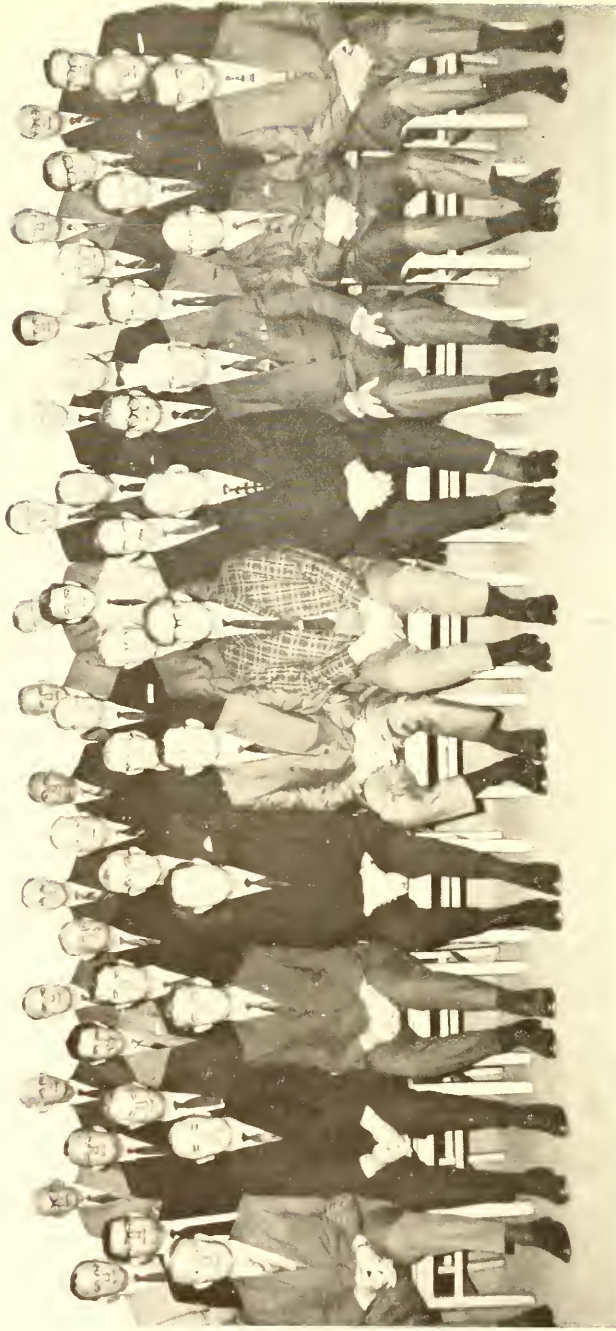
He has served as a speaker at the State Evangelistic Conference, the Florida Youth Conference, Y.W.A. State Conference and Florida Baptist School of the Prophets. He is a past president of the West Florida Baptist Pastor's Conference; was mission speaker in the Transpacific Crusade in Otorohanga, New Zealand; participated in youth programs at Ridgecrest and in the Southern Baptist Program Evaluation.

Rev. Watterson's civic activities include: chairman of Community Recreation for Youth and chairman of a special committee on juvenile delinquency, chairman of the Heart, Cancer and March of Dimes funds in Colonial Heights, Va.; counselor in the Mental Health Services Center in Petersburg, Va.; chairman of the zoning and planning commission, executive secretary of the Disaster Relief Fund, president of Crestview Improvement Association, member of the boards of directors of the Crestview Concert Association and American Red Cross, and past president of the Kiwanis Club, all in Crestview, Fla.; and was religious advisor to the student body at Okaloosa Walton Junior College, 1965-67. He has traveled extensively in Europe and also in the Near and Middle East, Southeast Asia and the Far East.

Among his special honors have been: listed in American College Student Leaders, 1951; Distinguished Service Award given by Virginia Jaycees, 1957; "Outstanding Man of the Year" in Colonial Heights, Va., 1957; Who's Who in the American Protestant Clergy, 1958; Who's Who in the South and Southwest, 1958-69; nominated to Executive and Professional Hall of Fame. His military background includes service in the U. S. Navy.

Mrs. Watterson is the former Yvonne Caudle of Petersburg, Va., and is a lyric coloratura soprano and an accomplished organist and pianist. They have three children, Pamela Yvonne, 14; Gene Lee, 9; and Lisa Dawn, 2.

Rev. Watterson has a brother who is also in the ministry. He is the Rev. Douglas Watterson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Tallahassee, Fla.



DEACONS

First row, left to right: Hoyt Bailey, George Byrd, Don Allen, W. B. Wilder, George Hamrick, Dr. Blake McWhirter, Paul Wilson, Hackett Wilson, Fred Swift, John L. Hawkins. Second row: Harold Causby, Henry Edwards, Ralph Greene, John Hamrick, B. S. Greene, Floyd Farris, H. S. Plaster, Ed Spangler, J. A. West, Hale Bryson, Steve Royster. Third row: Hugh Mauney, Robert Lee Eskridge, Robert Lutz, A. V. Hamrick, C. C. Horn, Horace Eason, Lewis Cantrell, Max Daves, L. J. Baley, Hubbard Hamrick, Ed Young, Joe E. Cabaniss. Fourth row: John Edd Queen, A. D. Allen, C. C. McMurry, Jr., Paul Allen, J. C. Bisette, Hoyt McCurry, Mal Spangler, Jr., Lloyd C. Bost, Lee Nolan, C. Mickey LeCroy, Robert R. Forney, C. Rush Hamrick, Jr.

DEACONS

Records for a number of years throughout the history of First Baptist Church are missing or incomplete so it is entirely possible that names of several of those who have served as deacons in the church may be omitted in this list. Deacons were first elected for life but for many years they have been elected on a rotating system for three-year terms.

Earliest records list the following who served:

1847 - William Roberts, John R. Logan and David Warlick.

1871 - Thomas Wilson, E. McBrayer, L. D. Webb, L. N. Durham, John R. Logan and W. W. Green.

1878 - E. McBrayer, W. W. Green, J. A. Parker, E. J. Lovelace, J. A. L. Wray, L. N. Durham.

Serving in 1889 when the second church building was constructed: W. W. Green, E. J. Lovelace, T. D. Lattimore, Dr. Victor McBrayer, J. F. Williams, M. N. Hamrick.

September, 1896 to September, 1909 - T. D. Lattimore, E. J. Lovelace, J. H. Quinn, C. Beattie Suttle, J. S. Wray, H. D. Wilson, J. F. Williams, W. N. Hamrick, C. C. Roberts, Dr. Victor McBrayer, E. A. Morgan, W. W. Green, H. D. Wilson.

1910 - Dr. T. E. Hamrick.

1911 - James T. Bowman, George L. English.

1914 - D. Augustus Beam, George P. Webb, George Dover, Samuel Turner, Josh Mauney, J. R. Moore and R. E. Campbell.

1922 - George Blanton, O. M. Mull, C. Rush Hamrick, W. L. Packard, T. G. Hamrick, George P. Webb, George Dover, J. J. Lattimore, John P. Mull, C. C. Hamrick.

1923 - H. F. Young, Judge James L. Webb, W. H. Hudson.

In more recent years, the following have served as deacons:

Abernathy, J. F.	Best, Herman	Byrd, George V.
Allen, A. D.	Bissette, J. C.	Cabaniss, Joe E.
Allen, A. Donald	Blackstock, Ralph	Cantrell, Lewis
Allen, Paul A.	Blanton, J. Kennon	Caudill, Wayne J.
Angel, W. L.	Bolt, Doris	Causby, Harold
Austell, J. Lowery	Bowling, Dr. Richard F.	Champion, F. O.
Bailey, Ernest	Bost, Lloyd C.	Cline, J. R.
Bailey, Hoyt Q.	Bost, Ned W.	Coble, C. C.
Baley, L. J. (Bill), Jr.	Branton, Worth	Cochran, Paul
Beckham, Joe	Bridges, Jesse E.	Crow, J. B.
Bennett, E. S.	Bryson, Hale T.	Daves, Max C.

Davis, John Ed, Jr.	Hunter, Dr. John B.	Ramsey, Jack
Doggett, Robert	Johnson, George T.	Roberts, Guy H.
Dover, George	Keeter, K. K.	Royster, Stephen S.
Dudley, J. G. III	Kendrick, James L.	Schenck, Newlin P.
Duggins, C. W.	King, C. M.	Sellers, Perry
Easom, Horace	Kiser, W. D.	Shytle, Ben
Edwards, Henry B.	Lattimore, Dr. E. B.	Smith, Ned N.
Elam, Reuben L.	Lattimore, J. J.	Smith, J. P.
Eskridge, Robert L.	Lawing, Claude M., Jr.	Spangler, Earl W.
Faison, John R.	Leath, Roland	Spangler, Mal A.
Falls, B. T.	LeCroy, C. M.	Spangler, Mal A., Jr.
Falls, Tilden	Ledford, J. F.	Spangler, J. Edwin
Fanning, Walter	Lewis, E. D.	Spangler, R. Patrick
Farmer, A. C.	Litton, Dr. Robert	Suttle, J. A.
Farris, E. Floyd	Lutz, Lloyd	Suttle, J. L.
Forney, Robert R.	Lutz, Robert H.	Swift, Fred J.
Garrett, J. G.	McBrayer, Elisha	Toms, H. L.
Gilliatt, Cecil L.	McBrayer, Fred	Washburn, Max
Greene, B. S.	McClain, E. C.	Washburn, P. M.
Greene, Ralph M.	McCurry, J. Hoyt	Weathers, Lee B.
Grigg, William S.	McKinney, E. F.	Webb, George P.
Hagaman, J. G.	McMurry, Dr. A. W.	Webb, Paul
Hamrick, A. V.	McMurry, C. C., Jr.	Webb, Paul, Jr.
Hamrick, A. V. Jr.	McMurry, S. A.	West, J. A.
Hamrick, C. Rush	McSwain, Yates	Whitworth, W. G.
Hamrick, C. Rush, Jr.	McWhirter, Dr. Blake	Wilder, W. B.
Hamrick, George W.	Martin, Lyman	Wilkins, John S.
Hamrick, Joe D.	Mauney, J. Hugh	Williams, L. P.
Hamrick, Dr. John C.	Misenheimer, J. Reid	Wilson, H. C.
Hamrick, Julian W.	Morris, Ralph	Wilson, Paul
Hamrick, L. T.	Mull, John P.	Wilson, Wilbur
Hamrick, O. V.	Mull, Joe F.	Wolfe, W. W.
Hamrick, O. V., Jr.	Mull, O. M.	Wood, J. Carver
Hamrick, R. Hubbard	Newton, J. C.	Wright, James L.
Hawkins, John Landrum	Nolan, Lee	Yelton, Paris L.
Hendrick, F. Cline	Patrick, Norman	Young, Carlos
Hopper, Theos	Plaster, Dr. H. S.	Young, Ed
Horn, C. C.	Powell, A. A.	Young, H. F.
Horn, W. James	Price, Roy D.	Young, Lamar L.
Hudson, W. Hill	Propst, J. Alvin	
Hudson, W. Hill, Jr.	Queen, John Edd	



FIRST PARSONAGE—built in 1905. Now stands on Marietta Street and is used as a rooming house.



SECOND PARSONAGE—built in 1924 and sold in 1968 when church gave up parsonage plan in favor of housing allowance for pastor.



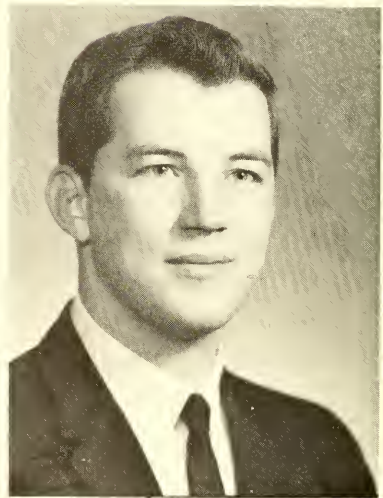
Gene
Watterson



Roland
Leath



Van
Ramsey



Mel
Doughty



STAFF—Seated, left to right, Miss Linda L. Petty, Mrs. James B. Spears, Miss Mary Sue Thompson. Standing, Monroe Petty, Mrs. Rosie Lee Moore, Rellie McDowell and Mrs. L. P. Williams.

THE CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Gene L. Watterson
Pastor

Rev. Roland Leath
Educational Director and Assistant Pastor

Van H. Ramsey
Minister of Music

Melvin Lee Doughty
Minister of Youth

Mrs. H. S. Plaster
Organist

Miss Mary Sue Thompson
Church Secretary

Mrs. James B. Spears
Educational Secretary

Rellie McDowell
Janitor

Miss Linda L. Petty
Music Youth Secretary

Monroe Petty
Janitor

Mrs. L. P. Williams
Church Hostess

Mrs. Rosie Lee Moore
Maid

OFFICERS

George W. Hamrick
Chairman, Board of Deacons

Olan Speagle
Church Treasurer

Roland Leath
Sunday School Superintendent

Lloyd Bost
Brotherhood President

J. C. Bissette
Training Union Director

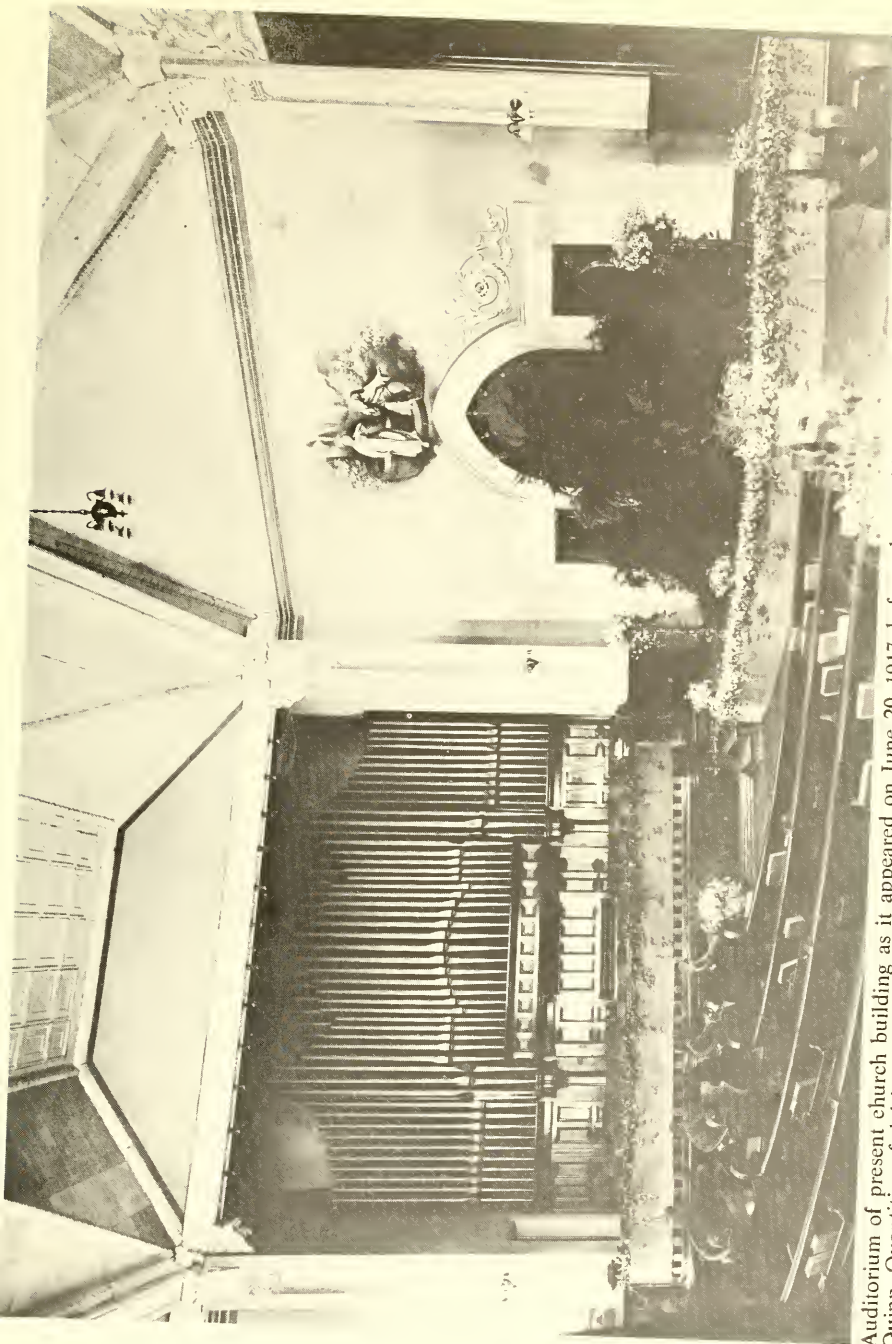
Mrs. J. A. West
W. M. U. President



Church auditorium as it appeared before last remodeling in 1956. Scene is that of the wedding of Miss Ada Ruth Hamrick and Stan Sherman on May 11, 1952.



LYDIA CLASS IN 1947—members are pictured as they honored Mrs. H. L. Newman at a birthday dinner. Seated left to right: Mrs. Amanda Wilson, Mrs. Amelia Eskridge, Mrs. Frank Hendrick, Mrs. Newman, Mrs. Mollie Eskridge, Mrs. C. J. Woodson and Mrs. W. L. Packard, teacher. Standing: Mrs. Sallie Mauney, Miss Mary Moore, Mrs. John F. Eaker, Mrs. Lula Logan, Mrs. J. R. Moore and Mrs. Mary Benton. When Mrs. Packard died on February 12, 1967 she was the church's oldest member at age 97.



Auditorium of present church building as it appeared on June 20, 1917 before the wedding of Miss Helen Dover and F. Dewitt Quinn. Quantities of daisies used in decorations were picked by the bride's brothers and sisters and members of the wedding party and arranged by them for the 10:30 a.m. ceremony, the hour chosen by the couple in order that they may catch the train for their honeymoon trip. Notice organ in choir loft.



NEWTON BIBLE CLASS IN 1955—front row, left to right: Alvin H. Smith, (?), B. F. Spangler, J. E. Bishop, Grover Beam, A. A. Ramsey, Charles Byers, C. E. Lowrance, Dennis Beam, H. E. Waldrop, Burgin Fortenberry, Charles Butec, C. M. King (teacher), C. J. Jones, Carl Putnam, Lee B. Weathers, Hopson Austell, Penry Owen, Cline Hendrick, Floyd Farris, D. H. Cline, Harold Love.

Second row: Brooks Reed, Yates McSwain, John S. Wilkins, Charles Broadway, Lowery Austell, Ray Lutz, Vic Breeze, Clyde Nolan, Flay Gardner, Early Sarratt, C. L. Spencer, Gus Kendrick, Henry Lide, Robert R. Forney, Ben E. Hendrick, Jimmy Irvin, John McArthur, O. P. Allen, Bill Lattimore, Claude Lucas, R. N. Hawkins, J. L. Suttle, Jr., Alvin Propst, Preston Glasgow, Reid Misenheimer.

Third row: Lloyd Lutz, C. R. Doggett, E. H. Duncan, Tilden Falls, (?), Yates Blanton, Gilmer Brown, Mal A. Spangler, E. B. Jarrett, James Allen, J. C. Bisette, Roy Corn, E. G. Smith, C. C. Coble, Carlos Young, Nelson Mauney, Robert Hause, Frank Blanton, Kennon Blanton, Robert Stallings, C. C. Horn, (?), Baxter Kirkpatrick.

Fourth row: G. R. Logan, Boyce Freeman, R. J. Rueker, Forrest Taylor, Paul Brooks, Robert Logan, Gilman Brown, W. C. McGraw, Dr. John Yelton, Nelson Self, John McMurry, Hugh Carpenter, Lewis Borders, Joe Moore, Ben Turner, Lon Spangler, Newman McIntyre, Rhoe Hamrick, Ralph Tucker, Morris Lucas, (?), Hub Panther, Oren Hamrick, Dr. Clyde Blanton, Griffin P. Smith.

Fifth row: Willis McMurry, Cobby Page, J. B. Freeman, Zeb Beam, Ed Washburn, Randolph Martin, Summie Garver, Ernest Spangler, Fred Callahan, Summie Spangler, David Royster, Howard Elliott, Oscar Evans, Alton Hopper, Cliff Walton, W. U. Pate, G. W. Harris, (?), John Roberts, Dan Fuquay, George Southard, Paris Yelton.

Sixth row: A. V. Hamrick, Carl Spurling, Dewey Bridges, Worth Branton, Zol Canipe, Lloyd Cogdell, Ed Spradley, Lawrence Cabaniss, Horace Steadman, Paul Brown, Paul Roberts, Paul Hawkins, Harlan Brydges, D. Robertson, Summy Hendrick, Grady Cheek, Jim Reid, Joe Meetze, Henry Lucas, E. S. Bennett, Guy H. Roberts, Jack Cahoon.



TEL CLASS OF 1934—Seated on front row, left to right: Mrs. S. A. McMurry, Mrs. Hugh Logan, Mrs. H. D. Wilson, Mrs. Beulah Whitaker, Mrs. Cabaniss (teacher), Mrs. C. L. Austell (?), Mrs. Burgin Putnam, Mrs. J. B. Crow, Standing: Miss Maude Hightower, Mrs. Sough Hopper, Mrs. W. L. Wilhelm, Mrs. Fields Young, Mrs. L. P. Holland, Mrs. B. O. Hamrick, Mrs. E. B. Lattimore, Mrs. T. P. Jenks, Mrs. C. C. McBrayer, Mrs. Paul Webb, Mrs. Tom Lattimore, Mrs. Lawrence Lackey, Mrs. W. B. Nix, Mrs. Sam Turner (?), Mrs. Buena Bostick (?), Mrs. Beulah Parker, Miss Avie Walters, Second row standing: Mrs. W. F. Davis, Mrs. W. H. Blanton (?), Mrs. George Magness, Mrs. Will Metcalf, Mrs. Colin Hull, Mrs. Robert Toms, Mrs. A. P. Weathers, Mrs. Hatlie McIntyre, Mrs. Leander Hamrick, Mrs. E. E. McKinney, (?) At random on top rows: Mrs. Docia Eaker, Mrs. Lee Dover, Mrs. George P. Webb, Mal Spangler, Mrs. E. W. Gibbs, Horace Eason, Mrs. W. A. Pendleton, Mrs. J. B. Nolan, Mrs. A. W. McMurry, Mrs. S. S. Summey, Mrs. Frank Rippy, Mrs. W. L. Hatcher, Mrs. Solon Beam, Mrs. O. V. Hamrick, Miss Georgia Cabaniss.



MARY BIBLE CLASS OF 1934—Seated, left to right: Mrs. John McArthur, Mrs. Robert Doggett, Mrs. Bea Suttle Morris, Mrs. Fred Moorhead, (?), child, Mrs. C. C. White, Mrs. James Allen, Miss Kate Roberts, (?), Standing: Horace Eason, Mal Spangler, Mrs. H. S. Plaster, (?), Mrs. Dorothy B. Keeter, Miss Laura Cornwell, (child in front is Helen Beth Casstevens Clark), Mrs. Ransom Casstevens, Mrs. Elisha McBrayer, Mrs. D. Huss Cline, Mrs. Raymond Cline, Mrs. C. O. Hamrick, Mrs. Lallage Hord, Mrs. Pansy B. Fetzer, Mrs. Rush Hamrick, (?), Miss Lizzite Turner, Mrs. Alma Hamrick Newman, Miss Kathleen Davis. Top group at random: Mrs. Buren Hull, Miss Lona Smith, Mrs. J. M. Hall, Mrs. Lura Litton, Mrs. Paul Hawkins, Mrs. Carver Wood, Mrs. R. H. Rogers, Mrs. Tom Moore, Mrs. F. O. Champion, Mrs. Elizabeth Dudley Nolan, Mrs. Yates McSwain, Mrs. E. G. Smith, Mrs. Guy Hull, Mrs. Betty Phillips, Mrs. Dewitt Quinn, Mrs. A. C. Farmer, Mrs. H. R. Sherrill, Mrs. Cleve Gardner, Mrs. W. W. G. Smart, Mrs. James Roberts, Mrs. E. C. Surratt.



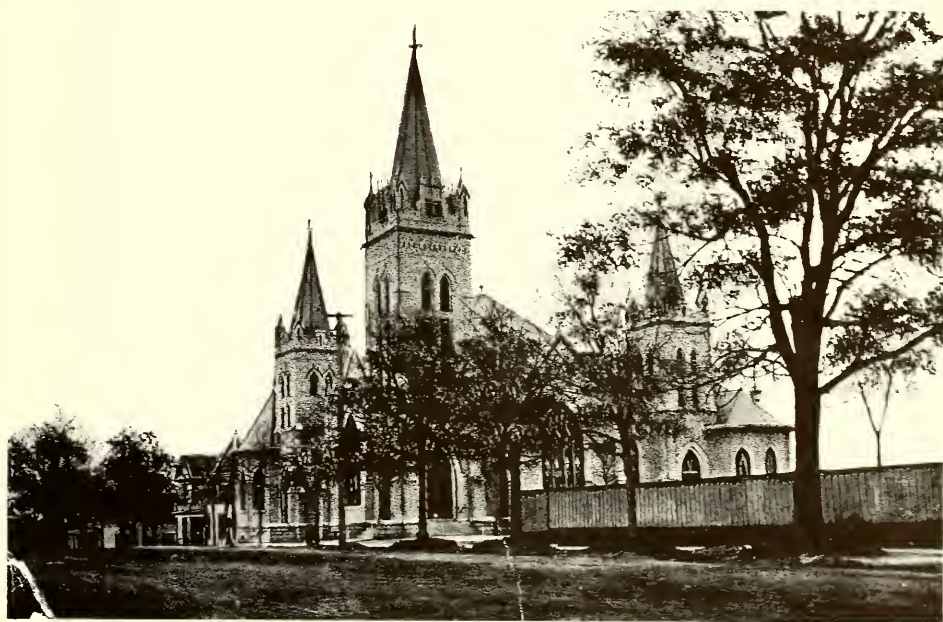
Members Of the Young People's Department



BETHANY CLASS of 1943—First row, left to right, Mrs. Mozelle Moore Puett, Miss Dot Austell, Mrs. Eloise Young Spangler, Mrs. Ann Austell Singleton, Mrs. Bea Suttle Morris (teacher); second row: Mrs. Sara Hopper Wells, Mrs. Millicent Hicks Jones, Mrs. Gene Harrill Young, Mrs. Mildred Cooke Doty, Mrs. Ava washburn Blanton, Mrs. Mary Lib Canipe Cash. Standing: Mrs. Catherine Roberts Dorsey, Mrs. Catharine Bailey Parsons, Mrs. Jeannette Smith Lowery, Mrs. Margaret Blanton Reber, Mrs. Grace Rutledge Hamrick, Mrs. Louise Costner Beam, Mrs. Frances Groom.



of First Baptist Church In Early 1930's



View of third church in 1912 showing fence behind old Courtview Hotel at right and first parsonage at left.



NURSERY CLASS IN 1941—left to right: Mrs. Zeno Wall, Willie Ralph Goforth, Betsy Logan, Mrs. Clcone King, Mrs. I. J. Courtney, Linda Logan, Allen Carroll, Glenda Sarratt, Mrs. E. C. Sarratt, Brenda Courtney, Mrs. J. G. Hagaman, Gail Hagaman, Jimmy Irvin, Jr., Marianna King, Patricia Hause, Miss Lorene Morehead, Mrs. C. Kush Hamrick, Sara Thomas Moore, Arthur Moss, Mike Wall, Mrs. A. L. Moss, Mrs. Jesse Bridges, George Elam, Mrs. Reuben Elam, Martha Elam, Maxine Hamrick, Mrs. Paul Wilson.

SOURCES

The main sources are listed below while many minor ones are omitted. Various passages have been built up throughout the history from fragments of information discovered here and there and from conversations with many persons.

- Records available at First Baptist Church
- Minutes of The Kings Mountain Association
- Minutes of The Broad River Association
- Files of Biblical Recorders dating back to 1835 (In Wake Forest Library)
- Minutes of Baptist State Convention
- History of the Kings Mountain Baptist Association (1851-1951)
- Sketches of the Broad River and Kings Mountain Baptist Associations From 1800 to 1882 - by Deacon John R. Logan
- Lengthened Shadows - A History of Gardner-Webb College, 1907-1956, Francis B. Dedmond
- General Catalog of Wake Forest College
- History of Wake Forest College - G. W. Paschal
- The Living Past of Cleveland County - Lee B. Weathers
- Files of The Shelby Daily Star and The Cleveland Times
- Personal Files of Mrs. O. Max Gardner
- Personal Files of O. M. Mull
- Articles by Miss Mamie Jones

CONTRIBUTING COMMITTEE:

John Brock
J. A. West
Ed Lewis
Roland Leath
Mrs. John Ed Davis, Jr.

Mrs. Robert Doggett
Mrs. L. B. Connor
Mrs. A. V. Hamrick, Jr.
Mrs. John Wacaster
Mrs. R. Hubbard Hamrick

CHURCH ROLL

Abernathy, J. F.
 Abernathy, Mrs. J. F.
 Abernathy, Mrs. Paul
 Adcox, F. O.
 Adcox, Mrs. F. O.
 Adcox, Steve
 Aiken, Frank J.
 Aiken, Mrs. Frank J.
 Aiken, Thomas Henry
 Aiken, Daniel Arthur
 Alexander, Mrs. D. Hoyle
 Alexander, Miss Elora
 Allen, A. D.
 Allen, Mrs. A. D.
 Allen, A. Donald
 Allen, Mrs. A. Donald
 Allen, Robert Shuford
 Allen, Andrell Donald
 Allen, B. C.
 Allen, Mrs. B. C.
 Allen, B. C. Jr.
 Allen, Debra
 Allen, Christopher Mark
 Allen, Bill F.
 Allen, Mrs. Bill F.
 Allen, Larry Mode
 Allen, Mary Elizabeth
 Allen, E. V.
 Allen, Mrs. E. V.
 Allen, Mrs. I. M.
 Allen, James W.
 Allen, Mrs. J. Haywood
 Allen, J. Haywood
 Allen, J. Haywood, Jr.
 Allen, Joe C.
 Allen, Mrs. Joe C.
 Allen, John
 Allen, Mrs. John
 Allen, Mrs. Joseph Glenn
 Allen, Paul
 Allen, Mrs. Paul
 Anderson, Mrs. Jean Wray
 Anderson, Jeffrey Street
 Anderson, John C.
 Anderson, Mrs. John C.
 Anderson, John C. Jr.
 Anderson, Mrs. John C. Jr.
 Angel, Mrs. W. L.
 Anthony, Mrs. Irvin
 Anthony, Irvin Jr.
 Arton, Wayne N.
 Arton, Mrs. Wayne N.
 Arton, Deborah Latain
 Atkinson, Richard S.
 Atkinson, Mrs. Richard S.
 Atkinson, Dickie
 Atkinson, Anne
 Atkinson, David
 Austell, C. L.
 Austell, Mrs. C. L.
 Austell, Mrs. Charles B.
 Austell, Mary Adelaide
 Austell, J. Lowery
 Austell, Mrs. J. H.
 Austell, Mrs. Sue
 Bailey, Ernest
 Bailey, Mrs. Ernest
 Bailey, Jimmy
 Bailey, Hoyt Q.
 Bailey, Mrs. Hoyt Q.
 Baker, Dr. John D.
 Baker, Mrs. John D.
 Baker, Onnie R.
 Baker, Mrs. Onnie R.
 Baker, Barbara
 Baker, Larry Stephen
 Baley, L. J. Jr.
 Baley, Mrs. L. J. Jr.
 Baley, Lewis J. III
 Ball, Richard L.
 Ball, Mrs. Richard L.
 Ballard, Mrs. Lacy H. Jr.
 Bankhead, John S.
 Bankhead, Mrs. John S.
 Bankhead, John Stewart Jr.
 Bankhead, Timothy Scott
 Bankhead, Willard M.
 Bankhead, Mrs. Willard M.
 Bankhead, Elizabeth Lynn
 Bcrger, Mrs. Jennie P.
 Barrett, Mrs. Louis Aubrey
 Bass, Jack M.
 Bass, Mrs. Jack M.
 Bass, Tina Lee
 Baugham, Marvin P.
 Baugham, Mrs. Marvin P.
 Baugham, Robert Monroe
 Beam, Clyde
 Beam, Mrs. Clyde
 Beam, Clyde Jr.
 Beam, Dennis A.
 Beam, Mrs. Dennis A.
 Beam, Dennis Jr.
 Beam, Mrs. Dennis Jr.
 Beam, Edwin A.
 Beam, Mrs. Edwin A.
 Beam, Donald
 Beam, Floyd M.
 Beam, Mrs. Floyd M.
 Becm, Mary Teresa
 Beam, Howard
 Beam, Mrs. Howard
 Beam, Barbara Bess
 Beam, James M.
 Beam, Mrs. James M.
 Beam, Mrs. Zeb
 Beam, Zeb Eglad Jr.
 Beam, Mrs. Zeb Eglad Jr.
 Beam, Zeb III
 Beason, Mrs. J. C.
 Beattie, W. Ralph
 Beattie, Mrs. W. Ralph
 Beckham, Mrs. J. C.
 Bell, Fred C.
 Bell, Mrs. Fred C.
 Bell, Renee
 Bell, Mrs. Haskell
 Bell, Gary Stephen
 Belue, C. L.
 Belue, Mrs. C. L.
 Bennett, E. S.
 Bennett, Mrs. E. S.
 Bennett, Clair Hays
 Bennett, Mrs. Clair Hays
 Bennett, Linda Doris
 Bennett, Clair Hays Jr.
 Benton, John
 Benton, Mrs. John
 Berry, Houston G.
 Berry, Mrs. Houston G.
 Bisette, J. C.
 Bisette, Mrs. J. C.
 Bisette, Gwendolyn Stott
 Blanton, Dr. Clyde
 Blanton, Mrs. Clyde
 Blanton, Elizabeth Ann
 Blanton, Frank
 Blanton, Mrs. Frank
 Blanton, John Franklin
 Blanton, Mrs. George Sr.
 Blanton, George Jr.
 Blanton, J. Kennon
 Blanton, Mrs. Kennon
 Blanton, James S.
 Blanton, Mrs. James S.
 Blanton, John Albert
 Blanton, Mrs. John Albert
 Blanton, L. T.
 Blanton, Mrs. L. T.
 Blanton, Marshall
 Blanton, Mrs. Marshall
 Blanton, Neil
 Blanton, Miss Blala
 Blanton, Miss Selma
 Blanton, Mrs. W. Herschel
 Blanton, Hazel
 Blanton, William E.
 Blanton, Mrs. William E.
 Blanton, William Lawton
 Blanton, Georgeann
 Blanton, Mrs. Yates
 Blauvelt, Percy R.
 Blauvelt, Mrs. Percy R.
 Blauvelt, Nancy Kaye

Blauvelt, Debra Jean
 Boatwright, Mrs. W. H.
 Boatwright, Michael
 Boatwright, Roger Steven
 Bogan, Mrs. Perrin B.
 Bolt, Charles M.
 Bolt, Mrs. Charles M.
 Borders, Garland
 Borders, Mrs. Garland
 Borders, Hugh H.
 Borders, Mrs. Hugh H.
 Borders, Lewis B.
 Borders, Mrs. Lewis
 Borders, Miss Sue Agnes
 Bost, Bennett W.
 Bost, Mrs. Bennett W.
 Bost, L. C.
 Bost, Mrs. L. C.
 Bost, Lloyd
 Bost, Mrs. Lloyd
 Bost, Lloyd C. Jr.
 Bost, Virginia Ann
 Bost, Byard Thurman
 Bost, Harlan Stewart
 Bost, Ned
 Bost, Mrs. Ned
 Bowen, James Laurence
 Bowen, Mrs. James Laurence
 Bowen, L. G.
 Bowen, Mrs. L. G.
 Bowen, Richard G.
 Bowen, Mrs. Richard G.
 Bowling, J. C.
 Bowling, Mrs. J. C.
 Bowling, Dr. R. F.
 Bowling, Mrs. R. F.
 Bowling, Karen Elizabeth
 Bowling, Kathryn Lillian
 Boyles, DeMar H.
 Boyles, Mrs. DeMar H.
 Boyles, Rebecca Jan
 Boyles, DeMar H. Jr.
 Bramlett, D. Eugene
 Bramlett, Mrs. D. Eugene
 Branton, Gene
 Branton, Mrs. Gene
 Branton, Calvin Douglas
 Branton, James Victor
 Branton, Mrs. J. W.
 Branton, Mrs. Worth
 Branton, Carolyn
 Breeze, Mrs. V. W.
 Bridges, Burwell
 Bridges, Mrs. Bruwell
 Bridges, Forrest W.
 Bridges, Mrs. Forrest W.
 Bridges, G. L.
 Bridges, J. Dewey
 Bridges, Jackie Lee
 Bridges, Mrs. Jesse E.
 Bridges, Johnnie J.
 Bridges, Mrs. Johnnie J.
 Bridges, Amelia Catherine
 Bridges, Deborah Anne
 Bridges, Charles
 Bridges, Katherine Lynn
 Bridges, Donna Colette
 Bridges, Norman
 Bridges, Mrs. Norman
 Bridges, T. F.
 Bridges, Mrs. T. F.
 Bridges, Thomas H.
 Bridges, Mrs. Thomas H.
 Briggs, Johnnie L.
 Briggs, Mrs. Johnnie L.
 Broadway, Mrs. W. A.
 Brock, John O.
 Brock, Mrs. John O.
 Brock, John Otto Jr.
 Brooks, Paul J.
 Brooks, Mrs. Paul J.
 Brooks, Paula Jackson
 Brooks, Robert D.
 Brooks, Mrs. Robert D.
 Brooks, Ronald David
 Brown, J. G.
 Brown, Mrs. J. G.
 Brown, James H.
 Brown, Mrs. James H.
 Brown, Rodney
 Brown, Paul P.
 Brown, Mrs. Paul P.
 Bruce, L. Ray
 Bruce, Mrs. L. Ray
 Bruce, Nancy Carol
 Brydges, Harlan
 Brydges, Mrs. Harlan
 Bryson, Hale T.
 Bryson, Mrs. Hale T.
 Bryson, Thomas Hale
 Bryson, Patricia Jane
 Bryson, James Andrew
 Buchanan, Miss Linda
 Buice, Lois
 Bumgardner, James Reginald
 Bumgardner, Mrs. James R.
 Burns, Mrs. Pantha
 Burns, Robert O.
 Burns, Mrs. Robert O.
 Burns, Robert O. Jr.
 Burns, Deborah Ann
 Burrus, Mrs. James Henry
 Burrus, James Henry, Jr.
 Butler, Max P.
 Butler, Mrs. Max P.
 Butler, Cecelia
 Butler, Phyllis Amanda
 Byers, Mrs. Charles S.
 Byers, Mrs. John
 Byrd, George V.
 Byrd, Mrs. George V.
 Byrd, George Vernon
 Byrd, Barry Ellis
 Cabaniss, Elmo
 Cabaniss, Mrs. Elmo
 Cabaniss, Michael Bryan
 Cabaniss, George
 Cabaniss, Sarah Louise
 Cabaniss, Karen Bliss
 Cabaniss, Phillip Broughton
 Cabaniss, James
 Cabaniss, Mrs. James
 Cabaniss, Joe E.
 Cabaniss, Mrs. Joe E.
 Cabaniss, Joe E. Jr.
 Cabaniss, David Wayne
 Cabaniss, Karen Jean
 Cabaniss, L. E.
 Cabaniss, Larry G.
 Cabaniss, Mrs. Larry G.
 Cabaniss, Robert Gold
 Cabaniss, Mrs. Robert Gold
 Cabaniss, Gary Marshall
 Cabiness, Dewey
 Cabiness, Mrs. Dewey
 Cabiness, W. Webb
 Cabiness, Edwin W.
 Cabiness, Mrs. Edwin W.
 Cabiness, Everett
 Cabiness, Mrs. Everett
 Caldwell, David Rollins
 Callahan, B. M.
 Callahan, Mrs. B. M.
 Callahan, Robert J.
 Callahan, Mrs. Robert J.
 Callahan, Robert Wesley
 Camp, Robert Norman
 Camp, Mrs. Robert Norman
 Campbell, Mrs. R. C.
 Campbell, Robert
 Campbell, Mrs. Robert
 Campbell, Charles Vance
 Campos, Mel
 Canipe, John
 Canipe, Mrs. John
 Canipe, Ronald Gene
 Canipe, Sue Ellen
 Canipe, Raymond E.
 Canipe, Mrs. Raymond E.
 Canipe, Mrs. Zollie L.
 Cantrell, Lewis
 Cantrell, Mrs. Lewis
 Carpenter, George M.
 Carpenter, Mrs. George M.
 Carpenter, M. H.
 Carpenter, Mrs. M. H.
 Carpenter, David
 Carpenter, Wayne
 Carpenter, Mrs. Wayne
 Carpenter, Abigail Wayne
 Carroll, Joseph Henry III
 Carroll, Mrs. Joseph H. III

Carter, L. Jack
 Carter, Mrs. L. Jack
 Cash, Crawley B. Jr.
 Cash, Mrs. Crawley B. Jr.
 Cash, Edwin Joseph
 Cash, Clyde Richard
 Casstevens, Mrs. Ransom
 Caudill, Wayne
 Caudill, Mrs. Wayne
 Caudill, Wayne Jack Jr.
 Caudill, Walter Lowry
 Causby, Harold
 Causby, Mrs. Harold
 Causby, Harold David
 Causby, Robert Hamrick
 Causby, Nelson
 Causby, Mrs. Nelson
 Causby, Ronald Dean
 Cayton, Mrs. James Luther
 Chadwell, J. E.
 Chadwell, Mrs. J. E.
 Chamberlain, Mrs. Richard
 Chamberlain, Patricia Susan
 Chamberlain, Anne
 Chamberlain, Richard Alfred Jr.
 Chamberlain, Linda Eleanor
 Champion, F. O.
 Champion, Mrs. F. O.
 Cheek, D. G.
 Cheek, Mrs. D. G.
 Clark, J. D.
 Clark, Mrs. J. D.
 Clark, Connie
 Cline, D. Huss
 Cline, Mrs. D. Huss
 Cline, Marshall O.
 Cline, Mrs. Marshall O.
 Cline, Marshall O. Jr.
 Clontz, Kenneth
 Clontz, Mrs. Kenneth
 Clontz, Jerry
 Clontz, Louise
 Clontz, Donald
 Coble, Mrs. C. C.
 Coble, Donald D.
 Cohoon, J. A.
 Cohoon, Mrs. J. A.
 Cole, Mrs. Charles Scott
 Collins, Mrs. Andrew
 Condrey, John
 Conner, Mrs. Yates
 Conner, Susanne
 Conner, Tonda Karen
 Connor, L. B.
 Connor, Mrs. L. B.
 Connor, Rickie
 Connor, Suzanne
 Connor, Laura Beth
 Cooke, Dennis
 Cooke, Mrs. Dennis
 Cooke, Dennis D. Jr.
 Cooke, Mrs. L. S.
 Cook, Mrs. John Grayson
 Corn, Mrs. Roy E.
 Cornwell, Mrs. Clyde
 Cornwell, Glenn
 Cornwell, Mrs. Glenn
 Cornwell, Miss Laura
 Costner, Aileen
 Costner, Elbert C.
 Costner, Mrs. Elbert C.
 Costner, Elbert Stephen
 Costner, Donald Ray
 Costner, Mrs. Fred
 Costner, Mrs. H. J.
 Costner, R. B.
 Costner, Mrs. R. B.
 Courtney, J. J.
 Courtney, Mrs. J. J.
 Crawford, Dewitt
 Crawford, R. Reid
 Crawford, Mrs. R. Reid
 Crawford, Ronald A.
 Crawford, Mrs. Ronald A.
 Crawley, Orlen Kenneth
 Crawley, Mrs. Orlen Kenneth
 Crowder, P. D. Jr.
 Crowder, Mrs. P. D. Jr.
 Crowder, P. D. III
 Crowder, Betsy
 Crowder, Regina
 Cummings, Mrs. Grace C.
 Cunningham, E. T.
 Cunningham, Mrs. E. T.
 Daves, Max
 Daves, Mrs. Max
 Daves, Max Jr.
 Daves, Beth
 Daves, Katherine Anne
 Daves, Mrs. Eliza C.
 Davis, Durham
 Davis, Mrs. Durham
 Davis, Dean Simpson
 Davis, Morris Durham, Jr.
 Davis, F. DeLane
 Davis, Mrs. F. DeLane
 Davis, Fred Delane, Jr.
 Davis, Cynthia Anita
 Davis, Hoyle
 Davis, Mrs. Hoyle
 Davis, Phil Travis
 Davis, John E., Jr.
 Davis, Mrs. John E. Jr.
 Davis, Patricia Willene
 Davis, Mrs. Pearl Bowling
 Davis, Russell S.
 Davis, Mrs. Russell S.
 Davis, Russell Sparks, Jr.
 Davis, Mrs. Stanley W.
 Dowkins, Reginald
 Dowkins, Mrs. Reginald
 Dawkins, Reginald G., Jr.
 DeBrew, Mrs. Howard
 DeBrew, Ladd
 DeBrew, Robert Howard
 Dedmon, Irvin Lee
 Dedmon, Mrs. Irvin Lee
 Dedmon, Pink
 Dedmon, Mrs. Pink
 Dedmon, W. Gerod
 Dedmon, Mrs. W. Gerod
 Dedmon, Margaret Anne
 Dellinger, Miss Irene
 Dennis, C. M.
 Dennis, Mrs. C. M.
 DePriest, Joe
 DePriest, Mrs. Joe
 DePriest, Joe, Jr.
 DePriest, David
 DePriest, Mrs. David
 DePriest, T. B.
 DePriest, Thomas Baxter
 Dixon, Raymond
 Dixon, Mrs. Raymond
 Dixon, William Raymond, Jr.
 Dixon, Charles Lindsey
 Dixon, Mrs. J. L.
 Doggett, Mrs. Robert
 Doggett, W. C.
 Doggett, Mrs. W. C.
 Doggett, George Carson
 Doty, Mrs. Frances
 Doughty, Melvin Lee
 Doughty, Mrs. Melvin Lee
 Dudley, J. G., Jr.
 Duncan, Earley H.
 Dunlap, William A.
 Dunlap, Mrs. William A.
 Durham, Russell H.
 Durham, Mrs. Russell H.
 Durham, Stephen Russell
 Durham, Brantley Hollan
 Duval, Mrs. Arthur Henry
 Eades, John
 Eades, Mrs. John
 Eades, Ellen Foster
 Easom, Horace
 Easom, Mrs. Horace
 Eaves, Roddey Phifer
 Eaves, Mrs. Roddey Phifer
 Eaves, Cheryl Dawn
 Edney, William Gaither
 Edney, Mrs. William Gaither
 Edney, Debra Kay
 Edwards, Mrs. A. C.
 Edwards, Henry B.
 Edwards, Mrs. Henry B.
 Edwards, Terry P.
 Elam, G. B.

Elam, Mrs. G. B.
 Elam, Reuben L.
 Elam, Mrs. Reuben L.
 Elam, Elizabeth Carson
 Elam, John Wilson
 Elam, Roland B.
 Elam, Mrs. Roland B.
 Elliott, Bonnie H.
 Elliott, Donald J.
 Elliott, Mrs. Donald J.
 Elliott, Roxane
 Elliott, Mrs. Bonnie H.
 Elliott, Howard C.
 Elliott, Mrs. Howard C.
 Elliott, M. P.
 Elliott, Mrs. M. P.
 Ellis, Bruce Herbert, Sr.
 Ellis, Mrs. Bruce Herbert, Sr.
 Ellis, Bruce Herbert, Jr.
 Ellis, Mrs. Cage
 Ellis, W. P.
 Ellis, Mrs. W. P.
 Ellis, William David
 Ellison, Joel M.
 Ellison, Mrs. Joel M.
 Ellison, David
 Ellison, Larry
 Elmore, John R.
 Elmore, Mrs. Ralph
 Eskridge, Carl E.
 Eskridge, Mrs. Carl E.
 Eskridge, Mrs. Charles L.
 Eskridge, Charles R.
 Eskridge, Mrs. Charles R.
 Eskridge, J. Holland
 Eskridge, Mrs. J. Holland
 Eskridge, Robert L.
 Eskridge, Mrs. Robert L.
 Eskridge, Robert Lee, Jr.
 Eskridge, Yates Kimball
 Eskridge, Lydia Jeanne
 Eskridge, Mrs. Sam B.
 Eskridge, Miss Muriel
 Eskridge, Sherrill
 Eskridge, Mrs. Sherrill
 Eskridge, Mrs. T. P.
 Eskridge, Miss Amelia
 Eskridge, William Harris
 Eskridge, Mrs. William Harris
 Eskridge, Annie Laurie
 Evans, Mrs. Oscar
 Falls, T. B.
 Falls, Mrs. T. B.
 Farmer, A. C.
 Farmer, Mrs. A. C.
 Farris, E. F.
 Farris, Mrs. E. F.
 Farris, Mary Camille
 Farrow, Theron
 Farrow, Mrs. Theron
 Farrow, Leslie Marie
 Farrow, Robert Harlan
 Favell, W. B.
 Favell, Mrs. W. B.
 Fetzer, Mrs. Pansy Blanton
 Fetzer, Thomas
 Fetzer, Mrs. Thomas
 Fetzer, Daniel
 Fetzer, Timothy Blanton
 Flowers, Fred A.
 Flowers, Mrs. Fred A.
 Forner, Charles A. Jr.
 Forner, Christopher Daniel
 Forney, Robert R.
 Forney, Mrs. Robert R.
 Fortenberry, Mrs. J. B.
 Fortenberry, Gene
 Fox, Mrs. J. T.
 Francis, Mrs. J. B.
 Frazier, James H.
 Frazier, Mrs. James H.
 Frazier, James Michael
 Frazier, Janice Lynne
 Freeman, Bess
 Freeman, Boyce T.
 Freeman, Mrs. Boyce T.
 Freeman, Jo Ann
 Freeman, Karen McBrayer
 Fuquay, J. C.
 Gallimore, Wray L.
 Gallimore, Mrs. Wray L.
 Gallimore, Wray Eckard, Jr.
 Gammons, Michael P.
 Gammons, Mrs. Michael P.
 Gardner, Flay
 Gardner, Mrs. Flay
 Gardner, Emily Jane
 Gardner, John Mull
 Gardner, O. Max III
 Gardner, Ralph Webb
 Gardner, Thomas L.
 Gardner, Mrs. Thomas L.
 Gardner, Kathy Susan
 Garver, Frank
 Garver, Mrs. Frank
 Garver, Frank, Jr.
 Garver, Jennifer Lynn
 Garver, S. R.
 Garver, Mrs. S. R.
 Gaston, Mrs. J. F.
 Gaston, Mrs. Rea
 Gaston, Pearl
 Geddes, James D.
 Geddes, Mrs. James D.
 Gettys, Mrs. Claude
 Gettys, William Earle
 Gettys, James Steven
 Gibbs, Miss Ray
 Gibson, Mrs. Polly
 Gibson, Raymond Edwin
 Gibson, Mrs. Raymond Edwin
 Gillespie, Dale
 Gillespie, Mrs. Dale
 Gilliatt, C. L.
 Gilliatt, Mrs. C. L.
 Gilliatt, Dr. Lee
 Gilliatt, Mrs. Lee
 Gladden, James Marion
 Gladden, Mrs. James Marion
 Gladden, James David
 Gladden, Phillip Marion
 Glascoe, D. J.
 Glascoe, Mrs. D. J.
 Glascoe, Joyce Allyson
 Goforth, George W.
 Goforth, Mrs. George W.
 Goforth, Martha
 Gold, Mrs. C. L.
 Gold, Forrest
 Gold, Mrs. Forrest
 Gold, Harry Gene
 Gold, Mrs. Harry Gene
 Gold, Mrs. Howard
 Gold, James Hoyle
 Gold, Mrs. James Hoyle
 Goode, Mrs. Pauline
 Goodman, Mrs. Richard
 Goodman, Jo
 Graham, Mrs. Thomas W.
 Graham, Thomas W. Jr.
 Graham, Michael
 Grayson, Mrs. R. N.
 Green, Grover
 Green, William J.
 Green, Mrs. William J.
 Green, Mary Jane
 Greene, A. B.
 Greene, Mrs. A. B.
 Greene, Deborah Kay
 Greene, B. S.
 Greene, Mrs. B. S.
 Greene, Clara
 Greene, Mrs. Ruth
 Greene, Marilyn Ruth
 Greene, Cheryl Irene
 Greene, Raymond Floyd
 Greene, Hershel
 Greene, Mrs. Hershel
 Greene, J. C.
 Greene, Mrs. J. C.
 Greene, Miss Jewel
 Greene, John Max
 Greene, Joseph M.
 Greene, Mrs. Joseph M.
 Greene, Mrs. Nancy C.
 Greene, Ralph M.
 Greene, Mrs. Ralph M.
 Greene, Ralph Miller, Jr.
 Greene, Dale Drew
 Greer, Mrs. Sam
 Grice, James P.

Grice, Mrs. James P.
 Griffin, Mrs. Anna W.
 Griffin, Allen Vance
 Griffin, Walter
 Grigg, Mrs. C. Donald
 Grigg, Donna Sue
 Grigg, Carl
 Grigg, Mrs. Carl
 Grigg, Carl S., Jr.
 Grigg, Dayne
 Grigg, Mrs. Dayne
 Grigg, Kathy Denise
 Grigg, Mrs. Effie
 Grigg, Miss Flossie
 Grigg, Talmadge Grant
 Grigg, James T.
 Grigg, Mrs. James T.
 Grigg, Lynn
 Grigg, Jimmy Michael
 Grigg, Mrs. P. F.
 Grigg, Mrs. Plato
 Gunnells, Jack
 Gunnells, Mrs. Jack
 Guthrie, Brenda
 Hall, Mrs. Carolyn
 Hall, James M.
 Hall, Mrs. James M.

Hambrick, J. B.
 Hamrick, Mrs. J. B.
 Hamrick, Karen Elizabeth
 Hamrick, J. Broughton
 Hamrick, Mrs. J. Broughton
 Hamrick, Mary Katherine
 Hamrick, Dr. John
 Hamrick, Mrs. John
 Hamrick, Susan Lucille
 Hamrick, Joseph
 Hamrick, Mrs. Joseph
 Hamrick, Julian W.
 Hamrick, Mrs. Julian W.
 Hamrick, L. R.
 Hamrick, Mrs. L. R.
 Hamrick, L. T.
 Hamrick, Mrs. L. T.
 Hamrick, Elizabeth Ann
 Hamrick, Miss Lucy
 Hamrick, Mrs. Max
 Hamrick, Mrs. O. V.
 Hamrick, O. V., Jr.
 Hamrick, Mrs. O. V., Jr.
 Hamrick, O. V. III
 Hamrick, Nina Claire
 Hamrick, Linda Carol
 Hamrick, Miss Ollie
 Hamrick, R. Hubbard
 Hamrick, Mrs. R. Hubbard
 Hamrick, Mrs. Thomas B.
 Hamrick, Thomas Beatty, Jr.
 Hamrick, Charles Mark
 Hamrick, Stephen Lee
 Hamrick, V. F.
 Hamrick, Mrs. V. F.
 Hamrick, William P.
 Hamrick, Mrs. William P.
 Hamrick, Cynthia SuAnna
 Hamrick, Linda Lorene
 Hand, Carl H., Jr.
 Hand, Mrs. Carl H., Jr.
 Hardin, James M.
 Hardin, Mrs. James M.
 Hardin, William
 Harrill, Mrs. J. B.
 Harrill, Mrs. Lottie W.
 Harris, F. T. B.
 Harris, Mrs. F. T. B.
 Harris, G. W.
 Harris, Mrs. G. W.
 Harris, George Burel
 Harris, Mrs. George Burel
 Harris, Mrs. James Thomas
 Harris, Leon
 Harris, Mrs. Leon
 Harris, Mrs. Miller
 Harris, Robert G.
 Harris, Mrs. Robert G.
 Harris, Dwight Timothy
 Harris, Mrs. Yates
 Hartley, Keith

Hartley, Mrs. Keith
 Hause, Mrs. Robert
 Hawkins, Dewey
 Hawkins, John Landrum
 Hawkins, Mrs. John Landrum
 Hawkins, Ann Christie
 Hawkins, John Landrum, Jr.
 Hawkins, Mrs. Paul
 Hawkins, R. N.
 Hawkins, Mrs. R. N.
 Hawkins, Ronald W.
 Hawkins, Mrs. Ronald W.
 Howkins, Mary Lynn
 Hayes, Alexander John
 Hayes, Mrs. Alexander John
 Haymaker, Claude
 Haymaker, Mrs. Claude
 Haymaker, James Robert
 Haymaker, Claude, Jr.
 Haynes, Diane
 Heath, Charles C.
 Heath, Mrs. Charles C.
 Heath, Janice Lynn
 Heath, Brian Neal
 Heath, Eric Scott
 Heffner, Mrs. Gary W.
 Heffner, Michael Scott
 Heffner, Edwin Lee
 Heffner, Dovid Stuart
 Heffner, Dale Wayne
 Heffner, Dane William
 Heffner, Geoffrey Lynn
 Henderson, James
 Henderson, Mrs. James
 Hendrick, Ben Ely
 Hendrick, Mrs. Ben Ely
 Hendrick, F. Cline
 Hendrick, Mrs. F. Cline
 Hendrick, Mrs. Ford
 Hendrick, Ford Jr.
 Hendrick, Mrs. Ford, Jr.
 Hendrick, Andrew Ford III
 Hendrick, Mrs. John
 Hendrick, Miss Lottie Mae
 Hendrick, Mal
 Hendrick, Mrs. Mal
 Hendrick, Michael Rodney
 Hendrick, Byron Howard
 Hendrick, Constance Elaine
 Hendrick, Robin Wade
 Hendrick, Susan Teresa
 Hendrick, Ned
 Hendrick, Mrs. Summey
 Hendricks, Mrs. Fred B.
 Henry, Mrs. Kathleen P.
 Henry, David
 Henry, Charles
 Henry, Beth
 Henry, Amy Kathleen
 Henry, Julia Frances
 Henry, Rebecca Louise

Hicks, Mrs. Earl
 Hill, C. J.
 Hill, Mrs. C. J.
 Hill, Mrs. E. B.
 Hines, Bobby G.
 Hines, Mrs. Bobby G.
 Hines, Mark
 Hines, Celia Groy
 Hoey, Mrs. Flay
 Holcomb, Mrs. E.
 Holcomb, Hugh Neil
 Halden, Jesse T.
 Halden, Mrs. Jesse T.
 Halden, Phyllis
 Holland, Lawrence
 Hollond, Mrs. Lawrence
 Holland, Janan
 Halland, Rastan
 Hollaman, Mrs. M. C.
 Hollaman, Kathy Anne
 Hallaman, Brenda
 Hoad, Mrs. Joe
 Happer, Altan
 Happer, Mrs. Alton
 Hopper, James
 Hopper, Mrs. James
 Hord, Russell
 Hord, Mrs. Russell
 Harldt, Daniel A.
 Horldt, Mrs. Daniel A.

 Horn, C. C.
 Horn, Mrs. C. C.
 Harn, Charles A.
 Harn, Mrs. Charles A.
 Horn, William James
 Harn, Mrs. William James
 Howard, Boyd Z.
 Haward, Mrs. Boyd Z.
 Howell, J. B.
 Howell, Mrs. J. B.
 Howell, Mrs. Miriam
 Hayle, Clarence
 Hayle, Mrs. Clarence
 Hoyle, Judy
 Hayle, Debaroh Sue
 Hoyle, Durham
 Hoyle, Mrs. Durham
 Hayle, Howell
 Hoyle, Mrs. Howell
 Hayle, Steve
 Hoyle, Hubert
 Hoyle, Mrs. Hubert
 Hoyle, Brendo Kathryn
 Hayle, Jerry Deams
 Hayle, Charles David
 Hayle, Mrs. Lorin
 Hudgins, Steve
 Hudson, Mrs. W. H.
 Hudson, Hill, Jr.
 Hudson, Mrs. Hill, Jr.

 Hudson, W. Hill III
 Hudson, Marris
 Hudson, Mrs. Marris
 Hudson, Robert Christopher
 Hughes, Dar
 Hughes, Mrs. Dan
 Hughes, Michael
 Hughes, Madeline Coral
 Hull, F. Guy
 Hull, Mrs. F. Guy
 Humphrey, Mrs. W. W.
 Humphrey, W. W.
 Hunter, Dr. Jahn B.
 Hunter, Mrs. Jahn B.
 Hunter, Nancy Jean
 Ingle, Garland Daniel
 Ingle, Mrs. Garland Daniel
 Ingle, Douglas
 Jackson, Charles E.
 Jackson, Mrs. Charles E.
 Jackson, Jackie, Jr.
 Jackson, Brenda
 Jackson, Linda Cheryl
 Jackson, Laura Leigh
 Jarrett, Dr. B. M.
 Jarrett, Mrs. B. M.
 Jay, Clarence P.
 Jay, Mrs. Clarence P.
 Jay, David
 Jay, Mrs. David
 Jay, Clarence David, Jr.
 Jay, Patricia Ann
 Jenkins, Glenn
 Jenkins, Mrs. Glenn
 Jenkins, Mrs. Robert S., Sr.
 Jally, Stephen Neal
 Janes, Avery Lee
 Jones, Mrs. Avery Lee
 Jones, Gary
 Jones, Judy Elizabeth
 Janes, Jana Koye
 Jones, James Marvin
 Jones, C. J.
 Janes, Mrs. C. J.
 Jones, Frederick R.
 Janes, Mrs. Frederick R.
 Jones, Linda
 Jones, Ricky
 Janes, Hatcher L.
 Janes, Henry Lee
 Janes, Jahn C.
 Janes, Leland
 Janes Pamela Foy
 Janes, Lyman
 Janes, Mrs. Lyman
 Jones, Mrs. Opal P.
 Janes, Dr. Robert S.
 Janes, Mrs. Robert S.
 Jones, Robert Spurgeon, Jr.
 Janes, Joseph Henry
 Janes, Turner, Jr.

 Jordan, J. M.
 Jordan, Mrs. J. M.
 Jordan, Charles Wayne
 Jordan, Jan Marie
 Kale, Mrs. Ralph
 Keeter, Mrs. Dorothy B.
 Keeter, H. S., Jr.
 Keeter, Mrs. H. S., Jr.
 Keeter, Hoyt S., Sr.
 Keeter, Mrs. Hoyt S., Sr.
 Keeter, Billie Kathryn
 Keeter, Millie Patricia
 Keeter, K. K.
 Keeter, Kermit K., Jr.
 Keever, Debarah Jean
 Kelly, R. G.
 Kelly, Mrs. R. G.
 Kelly, Jahnsan
 Kelly, Linda
 Kelly, Richard Dale
 Kendrick, John
 Kendrick, Mrs. John M.
 Kendrick, Jahn Marion, Jr.
 Kent, Roy Dean
 Kester, Mrs. John
 Kester, James William
 King, G. F.
 King, Mrs. G. F.
 King, Mrs. Helen D.
 King, Jack D.
 King, Mrs. Jack D.
 King, Mrs. W. R.
 Kirkpatrick, Gene I.
 Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Gene I.
 Kirkpatrick, Gene Irvin, Jr.
 Kiser, Vernon
 Kiser, Mrs. Vernan
 Kiser, Betsy Carl
 Kiser, Vernan Kenneth, Jr.
 Kiser, W. D.
 Kiser, Mrs. W. D.
 Kiser, Sandra Diane
 Kiser, Walker Daniel, Jr.
 Lackey, Mrs. Angelo
 Lackey, Evans
 Lackey, Mrs. Evons
 Lackey, Lawrence
 Lackey, Michael
 Lackey, Norris D.
 Lackey, Mrs. Narris D.
 Lackey, Lea
 Lackey, Phillip I.
 Lackey, Robert R., Jr.
 Lackey, Mrs. Robert R., Jr.
 Lampley, Mrs. Charles G.
 Landreth, Mrs. Stephen Glenn
 Lane, H. A.
 Lane, Mrs. H. A.
 Lane, Allen, Jr.
 Lankford, Mrs. Irene
 Lankford, Penny

Lankford, Cynthia Diane
 Lankford, Tiny
 Lankford, Raymond T.
 Lankford, Mrs. Raymond T.
 Lankford, John
 Lankford, Jean
 Lattimore, Mrs. E. B.
 Lattimore, Mrs. S. Nelson
 Lattimore, S. N., Jr.
 Lattimore, Mrs. S. N., Jr.
 Lattimore, Mrs. W. C.
 Laughlin, R. C.
 Laughlin, Mrs. R. C.
 LaVene, Mrs. Robert John
 Lawing, Claude, Jr.
 Lawing, Mrs. Claude, Jr.
 Lawing, Claudia Jean
 Leath, Mrs. Pollye
 Leath, Roland
 Leath, Mrs. Roland
 Leath, Marcus
 LeCroy, Charles Michael
 LeCroy, Mrs. Charles Michael
 Ledbetter, R. K.
 Ledbetter, Mrs. R. K.
 Ledford, Leroy
 Ledford, Mrs. Leroy
 Ledford, Mrs. R. H.
 Lee, M. Joyce
 Lee, O. E.
 Lee, Mrs. O. E.
 Lee, Odus E., Jr.
 Lee, Mrs. Odus E., Jr.
 Lee, Nina Jane
 Lee, Robert Wesley
 Lee, Thomas P.
 Lee, John Drury II
 Leftwich, J. C.
 Lehman, Reverend J. Edward
 Lehman, Mrs. J. Edward
 Leigh, Eli
 Leinweber, Mrs. Alvin
 Leinweber, Mary Katrina
 Leinweber, Paula
 Lemberger, Mrs. Richard
 Lemons, John Harold
 Lemons, Mrs. John Harold
 Lewis, Mrs. Andrew
 Lewis, Mrs. Feastur
 Lewis, Mrs. Robert Gardner
 Lide, Henry
 Lide, Mrs. Henry
 Limerick, Paul
 Limerick, Mrs. Paul
 Limerick, Paul Douglas
 Limerick, Danny Thomas
 Lineberger, Mrs. Wm M. III
 Litton, Dr. Robert
 Litton, Mrs. Robert
 Litton, Lura Adeline
 Logan, G. R.
 Logan, J. R.
 Logan, Mrs. J. R.
 Lovelace, Mrs. Faye
 Lovelace, Grady B.
 Lovelace, Mrs. Grady B.
 Lovelace, Mrs. Grady H.
 Lowe, John M.
 Lowe, Mrs. John M.
 Lowery, Mrs. Ollie
 Lowery, William B.
 Lowery, Mrs. William B.
 Lowrance, C. E.
 Lowrance, Mrs. C. E.
 Lowrance, Miss Doris
 Lucas, Miss Frances
 Lucas, J. Claude
 Lucas, Mrs. J. Claude
 Lucas, Morris
 Lucas, Mrs. Morris
 Lucas, Nancy Elaine
 Lucas, Walker Lee
 Luckadoo, Clevie C.
 Luckadoo, Mrs. Clevie C.
 Luckadoo, David Gene
 Luckadoo, Wesley McKinley
 Luckadoo, Clevie C., Jr.
 Lutz, J. Ray
 Lutz, Mrs. J. Ray
 Lutz, Lloyd
 Lutz, Mrs. Lloyd
 Lutz, Ray Webb
 Lutz, Mrs. Ray Webb
 Lutz, Robert
 Lutz, Mrs. Robert
 Lutz, Robert II
 Lutz, Sara Lillyan
 Lutz, Betsy Jane
 Lutz, William D.
 Lutz, Mrs. William D.
 McArthur, John
 McArthur, Mrs. John
 McArthur, Miss Mildred
 McBrayer, Miss Agnes
 McBrayer, Miss Ruby
 McBrayer, Miss Bessie
 McBrayer, Charles R.
 McBrayer, Mrs. Charles R.
 McBrayer, Reuben
 McBrayer, Mrs. Elisha
 McBrayer, Frederick
 McBrayer, Mrs. Frederick
 McBrayer, Phillip Davis
 McBrayer, Patricia Lynn
 McCarver, James Thomas
 McCarver, Mrs. James Thomas
 McCleney, Richard
 McCleney, Mrs. Richard
 McCleney, Dickie Anne
 McCleney, Cathy Sue
 McCraw, Lloyd Keith
 McCraw, Mrs. Lloyd Keith
 McCraw, Lloyd Keith, Jr.
 McCurry, Mrs. Ed
 McCurry, J. H.
 McCurry, Mrs. J. H.
 McCurry, Mrs. W. S.
 McDaniel, Mrs. B. C.
 McDaniel, Marvin
 McDaniel, Mrs. Marvin
 McDaniel, Mike Steve
 McDaniel, Chris Bernard
 McGraw, W. C.
 McGraw, Mrs. W. C.
 McGraw, John Barry
 McIntyre, Mrs. Hattie
 McIntyre, Mrs. James
 McIntyre, Newman
 McIntyre, Mrs. Newman
 McIntyre, Thomas L.
 McIntyre, Mrs. Thomas L.
 McIntyre, Kimberly Lynn
 McIntyre, Dana Grey
 McKee, Roger
 McKee, Mrs. Roger
 McKee, Roger, Jr.
 McKinney, Charles Austin
 McKinney, Mrs. Charles Austin
 McKinney, Mrs. E. E.
 McKinney, Mrs. E. F.
 McMurry, Dr. Avery W.
 McMurry, Mrs. Avery W.
 McMurry, Warren Winslow
 McMurry, Harris Ligon
 McMurry, David Willis
 McMurry, Carol Avery
 McMurry, C. C., Jr.
 McMurry, Mrs. C. C., Jr.
 McMurry, John E.
 McMurry, Robert
 McMurry, Mrs. Robert
 McMurry, Susan Bernice
 McMurry, Robert Alex
 McMurry, Willis
 McMurry, Mrs. Willis
 McSwain, Capt. (Chap.) Don
 McSwain, Mrs. Don
 McSwain, David
 McSwain, Mrs. H. K.
 McSwain, Mrs. Nell C.
 McSwain, David
 McSwain, Victoria Jane
 McSwain, Mrs. Plato
 McSwain, Roy
 McSwain, Mrs. Roy
 McSwain, Mrs. Yates
 McWhirter, Dr. Blake Mills
 McWhirter, Mrs. Blake M.
 McWhirter, Dorothy Ann
 McWhirter, Joe N.
 McWhirter, Mrs. Joe N.
 Mabry, Mrs. Claude J., Jr.
 Macomson, Mary Rebecca
 Magness, Mrs. George
 Magness, Charles Lee, Jr.
 Magness, George Lee

Magness, Mrs. George Lee
 Magness, James
 Magness, Mrs. James
 Magness, Margaret
 Malone, Dr. (Rev.) Frank H.
 Malone, Mrs. Frank H.
 Martin, Carl Gold
 Martin, Mrs. Carl Gold
 Martin, Michael Wayne
 Martin, Timothy Clark
 Martin, Gold Mallory
 Martin, Charles R.
 Martin, Mrs. Charles R.
 Martin, Susan
 Martin, Stanley
 Martin, Sandra Nell
 Martin, Mrs. Randolph
 Martin, Conrad
 Mason, Mrs. Dan D.
 Mattero, James A.
 Mattero, Mrs. James A.
 Mattero, Vivian Lorraine
 Mattero, Carol Mae
 Mauney, Clyde
 Mauney, Floyd R.
 Mauney, Mrs. Floyd R.
 Mauney, Hugh
 Mauney, Mrs. Hugh
 Mauney, Jeri Anne
 Mauney, James P.
 Mauney, Mrs. James P.
 Mauney, Mrs. Nelson
 Mauney, Mrs. R. Grady
 Mauney, Mrs. Zeb
 Meacham, Earl
 Meacham, Mrs. Earl
 Meacham, Otis Mull
 Meetze, Joseph B.
 Megginson, L. P.
 Megginson, Mrs. L. P.
 Melton, William B.
 Melton, Mrs. Wililam B.
 Mercier, Ronald R.
 Mercier, Mrs. Ronald R.
 Merritt, Mrs. Dorsey
 Merritt, Gail Elizabeth
 Merritt, Edward Dorsey
 Metcalf, Mrs. W. V.
 Miller, Mrs. William
 Miller, William Perry
 Miller, Allen Lynn
 Milligan, Mrs. Lynda Eskridge
 Mills, Mrs. Sam S.
 Mincey, Harvey
 Mincey, Mrs. Harvey
 Mincey, Harry
 Mincey, Charlotte Frances
 Mintz, Rush Shull
 Mintz, Mrs. Rush Shull
 Mintz, Ronald Lee
 Mintz, Robin
 Misenheimer, J. R.
 Misenheimer, Mrs. J. R.
 Mitchell, Dr. Z. P.
 Mitchell, Mrs. Z. P.
 Mode, Mrs. John
 Monroe, Mrs. Ellis P.
 Mooney, W. L.
 Mooney, Mrs. W. L.
 Moore, Dr. D. F.
 Moore, Mrs. J. Clyde
 Moore, Joe L.
 Moore, Mrs. Joe L.
 Moore, Marshall, Jr.
 Moore, Mrs. Marshall, Jr.
 Moore, Franklin Shaw
 Moore, Miss Mary
 Moore, Tom
 Moore, Mrs. Tom
 Moorhead, Fred W.
 Moorhead, Mrs. Fred W.
 Morehead, Miss Inez
 Morehead, Miss Lorene
 Morgan, Mrs. A. H.
 Morgan, Mrs. Gerald
 Morgan, Charles Henry, Jr.
 Morgan, O. Z.
 Morgan, Mrs. O. Z.
 Morgan, Roscoe H., Sr.
 Morgan, Mrs. Roscoe H., Sr.
 Morgan, Milton Earle
 Morrison, Dr. D. M.
 Morrison, Mrs. D. M.
 Morrow, Mrs. Reid E.
 Morrow, Keith
 Moses, Ettalie
 Moss, A. L.
 Moss, Mrs. A. L.
 Moss, Arthur L., Jr.
 Moss, Mrs. Arthur L., Jr.
 Moss, Miss Addie
 Moss, Mrs. Carl W.
 Moss, Keith
 Mull, Carr
 Mull, Mrs. Carr
 Mull, Mrs. Fred
 Mull, Joe F.
 Mull, Mrs. Joe F.
 Mull, Mrs. John P.
 Mull, John P., Jr.
 Mull, Peggy Ann
 Mull, Amelia Grace
 Mull, Rush Isaac, Jr.
 Mundy, Ruth
 Muraoka, Veronica
 Myers, Jean Ann
 Neal, James Irvin
 Neal, Mrs. James Irvin
 Neal, Lenora Anne
 Neal, Suson Melanie
 Newman, Mrs. Carl
 Newman, H. L.
 Newton, Mrs. F. M.
 Newton, J. Clint, Jr.
 Newton, Mrs. J. Clint, Jr.
 Newton, John Clinton III
 Newton, Charlotte Ansley
 Newton, Robert
 Newton, Mrs. J. C.
 Newton, Mrs. Roy
 Nix, Lucile
 Nolan, Mrs. A. V.
 Nolan, C. Sidney
 Nolan, Mrs. C. Sidney
 Nolan, Clyde
 Nolan, Mrs. Clyde
 Nolan, Clyde, Jr.
 Nolan, Ed
 Nolan, Mrs. Ed
 Nolan, Edward Beam, Jr.
 Nolan, Lee
 Nolan, Mrs. Lee
 Nolan, Charles
 Norman, Sara Lee
 Olsen, Mrs. H. E.
 Osborne, W. Gerald
 Osborne, Mrs. W. Gerald
 Owen, Penry
 Owen, Mrs. Penry
 Packard, Fields O.
 Packard, Mrs. Fields O.
 Padgett, Dr. Charles K.
 Padgett, Oscar, Jr.
 Padgett, Mrs. Oscar, Jr.
 Padgett, James Harrill
 Padgett, Samuel K.
 Page, Kenneth R.
 Page, Mrs. Kenneth R.
 Paksoy, Mrs. Ali B.
 Paksoy, Ali B.
 Paksoy, Jayne Nicole
 Paksoy, John Enis
 Panther, Fred M.
 Panther, Mrs. Fred M.
 Panther, J. B.
 Panther, Mrs. J. B.
 Panther, Katherine
 Panther, Mrs. J. O.
 Parris, Mrs. Stewart
 Pate, Mrs. W. U.
 Patrick, Norman
 Patrick, Mrs. Norman
 Patterson, C. C.
 Pearce, William E.
 Pearson, Karen
 Pearson, Teresa Jayne
 Pendleton, W. G.
 Pendleton, Mrs. W. G.
 Pendleton, Mary Beatrice
 Pendleton, Miss Billie G.

Pennington, Mrs. E. M.
 Pernel, W. A.
 Pernel, Mrs. W. A.
 Pernel, Clifton Wade
 Pernel, Van Alton
 Phifer, Robert L.
 Phifer, Mrs. Robert L.
 Phifer, Margaret Debra
 Phifer, Robert Dole
 Phifer, Patrick Lee
 Philbeck, Keith
 Philbeck, Mrs. Keith
 Philbeck, Dean
 Phillips, Mrs. A. W.
 Phillips, Mrs. L. R.
 Phillips, Mary Ann
 Plank, Barbara
 Plaster, Dr. H. S.
 Plaster, Mrs. H. S.
 Poe, Donno Charlene
 Poston, Ben L.
 Poston, Mrs. Ben L.
 Poston, C. G.
 Poston, Mrs. C. G.
 Poston, David Edward
 Poston, (Reverend) Carl
 Poston, Mrs. Carl
 Poston, David Theron
 Poston, Barbara
 Poston, Mrs. Minnie
 Powell, A. A.
 Powell, Mrs. A. A.
 Price, Elmer
 Price, Mrs. Elmer
 Price, James
 Price, Mrs. James
 Price, Thomas Fredrick
 Price, Richard Michael
 Price, Mrs. Roy
 Proctor, Fate
 Proctor, Mrs. Fate
 Propst, Mrs. J. O.
 Propst, Rev. R. Albert
 Propst, Mrs. R. Albert
 Propst, Deborah Lee
 Propst, Mrs. Roy
 Psilopoulos, Dino
 Putnam, Mrs. Carolyn S.
 Putnam, Wayne
 Putnam, Jean
 Putnam, Clyde G.
 Putnam, Mrs. Clyde G.
 Putnam, Frank Y.
 Putnom, Mrs. Frank Y.
 Putnam, Michael David
 Putnam, Stephen Young
 Putnam, Mrs. M. Corl
 Putnam, Ralph
 Putnam, Mrs. Ralph
 Queen, John E.
 Queen, Mrs. John E.
 Queen, Kathryn Lee
 Queen, Will L.
 Queen, Mrs. Will L.
 Quinn, Mrs. Dewitt
 Robon, R. R.
 Raduly, Mrs. Ernest Ralph
 Ramsaur, Thomas E.
 Ramsaur, Mrs. Thomas E.
 Ramsey, Horry L.
 Romsey, Mrs. Harry L.
 Ramsey, Stephen
 Ramsey, Roger Lewis
 Romsey, Harvey Lee
 Ramsey, T. A.
 Ramsey, Mrs. T. A.
 Ramsey, Suzanne
 Ramsey, James Warren
 Ramsey, Van H.
 Romsey, Mrs. Van H.
 Randall, Carl
 Rondall, Mrs. Carl
 Randall, R. P.
 Rayne, Richard Alfred
 Rayne, Mrs. Richard A.
 Reid, Charles
 Reid, Mrs. Charles
 Reid, Charles C., Jr.
 Reid, John Adams
 Reid, W. J.
 Reid, Mrs. W. J.
 Reynolds, D. V.
 Reynolds, Mrs. D. V.
 Reynolds, Steve
 Ridgeway, Bobby R.
 Ridgeway, Mrs. Bobby R.
 Rippy, Mrs. Frank
 Riviere, Ted A.
 Riviere, Mrs. Ted A.
 Riviere, Ronda Lynn
 Roark, Mrs. Margaret
 Robbs, Mrs. James David
 Roberts, Fred
 Roberts, Mrs. Fred
 Roberts, Gary H.
 Roberts, Mrs. Gary H.
 Roberts, Suzanne Wray
 Roberts, Mrs. Guy
 Roberts, John A.
 Roberts, Mrs. John A.
 Roberts, Mrs. Paul
 Robertson, Charles D.
 Robertson, Mrs. Charles D.
 Robertson, D.
 Robertson, Mrs. D.
 Rogers, Ernest
 Rogers, Mrs. Ernest
 Rogers, Ernest Patrick
 Rogers, Charles
 Rogers, Harvey
 Rogers, Mrs. Harvey
 Rogers, Harvey, Jr.
 Rogers, W. E.
 Rogers, Mrs. W. E.
 Rogers, Debbie
 Rogers, Becky
 Rogers, Anita Carol
 Rollins, Howard
 Rollins, Mrs. Howard
 Ross, Mrs. Claude
 Ross, Claude O., Jr.
 Ross, Mrs. Claude O., Jr.
 Royster, Mrs. D. W.
 Royster, David W., Jr.
 Royster, Kathy
 Royster, Margaret McMurry
 Royster, Mary Lynn
 Royster, David Wyeth, III
 Royster, Mrs. Ralph
 Royster, Stephen
 Royster, Mrs. Stephen
 Royster, Stephen S., III
 Royster, Susan Sutton
 Royster, Michael Ralph
 Rucker, R. J.
 Rucker, Mrs. R. J.
 Runyans, Mrs. Manley
 Ruppe, Mrs. Earl Kenneth
 Ruppe, Mrs. Roy L.
 Ruppe, Mitchell
 Ruppe, Robin Lucy
 Rush, William G., Jr.
 Rush, Mrs. William G., Jr.
 Rush, Beverly Ann
 Surratt, Mrs. E. C.
 Sauls, Mrs. Harry
 Schenck, Newlin
 Schenck, Mrs. Newlin
 Schenck, Ann Leslie
 Schenck, Mark Benjamin
 Schenck, Hal Emerson
 Scism, Max
 Scism, Mrs. Max
 Scism, Neal
 Scism, Lou Ann
 Scism, Bryant Oliver
 Scoggins, Mrs. Melvin
 Sellers, W. Perry
 Sellers, Evelyn
 Senn, Charles T.
 Senn, Mrs. Charles T.
 Senn, Caroline
 Senn, Catherine
 Shaw, Miss Joe
 Shelton, Alice Patricia
 Sheppard, Dow
 Sheppard, Mrs. Dow
 Sheppard, Mary Ellen
 Sherlin, Alvin M.
 Sherlin, Mrs. Alvin M.

Sherman, Stanley Robert
 Sherman, Sandra Leigh
 Sherman, Mrs. Stanley Robert
 Sherman, William Stanley
 Sherman, Stephen Robert
 Sherrill, Frank
 Sherrill, Mrs. Frank
 Sherrill, Patricia
 Sherrill, Suzanne
 Shields, J. Don
 Shields, Mrs. J. Don
 Shields, William Bradford
 Shields, Scott
 Short, L. W.
 Short, Mrs. L. W.
 Short, Dale Albert
 Shytle, Charles
 Shytle, Mrs. Charles
 Shytle, Carl Hugh
 Shytle, Giles
 Shytle, Mrs. Giles
 Sibley, Mrs. Dudley R.
 Silver, Joseph W.
 Silver, Mrs. Joseph W.
 Silver, Joseph Norman
 Sisk, Mrs. Annie
 Sisk, Mrs. Jean
 Sisk, Jerry Donald
 Sisk, Dennis Anita
 Smart, Mrs. W. W. G.
 Smith, Mrs. Clarence
 Smith, Suzanne
 Smith, Donald E.
 Smith, Mrs. Donald E.
 Smith, E. G.
 Smith, Mrs. E. G.
 Smith, G. P., Jr.
 Smith, Griffin P.
 Smith, Mrs. Griffin P.
 Smith, Hartwell
 Smith, Mrs. Hartwell
 Smith, Mrs. J. Carlyle
 Smith, Carol Sue
 Smith, Lona
 Smith, Ned Nolan, Jr.
 Smith, Cathy
 Southard, Mrs. C. L.
 Southard, Charles Phillip
 Southard, Kathy Suzanne
 Southard, George M.
 Southard, Mrs. George M.
 Southard, Michael
 Southards, J. H., Jr.
 Spangler, B. F.
 Spangler, Mrs. B. F.
 Spangler, Mrs. Clyde
 Spangler, Dather H.
 Spangler, Mrs. Dather H.
 Spangler, Earl W.
 Spangler, Mrs. Earl W.
 Spangler, Joan Harrill
 Spangler, Patricia Ann
 Spangler, Ernest Webb, II
 Spangler, Carol Elaine
 Spangler, J. David
 Spangler, Mrs. J. David
 Spangler, Nancy
 Spangler, Richard
 Spangler, David Michael
 Spangler, J. Edwin
 Spangler, Mrs. J. Edwin
 Spangler, Susan Rucker
 Spangler, M. A., Jr.
 Spangler, Mrs. M. A., Jr.
 Spangler, M. A., III
 Spangler, Donald Odom
 Spangler, Malcolm
 Spangler, Mrs. Malcolm
 Spangler, William Eugene
 Spangler, Pat
 Spangler, Mrs. Pat
 Spangler, Nancy Lynne
 Spangler, Nina Jane
 Spangler, Jean Patrick
 Spangler, Penny Eloise
 Spangler, Royce Patrick, Jr.
 Spangler, Robert F.
 Spangler, Mrs. Robert F.
 Spangler, Summey
 Spangler, Mrs. Summey
 Sparks, Gerald
 Sparks, Mrs. Gerald
 Sparks, Thomas Edward
 Sparks, Richard Gerald
 Sparks, Mrs. R. E.
 Speagle, Olan R.
 Speagle, Mrs. Olan R.
 Speagle, Lewis Edwin
 Speagle, Sarah Annette
 Spears, James B.
 Spears, Mrs. James B.
 Spears, Sandra
 Spears, James B., Jr.
 Spears, Pamela Jane
 Spears, John Howard
 Spears, Jeffrey Paul
 Spencer, C. L.
 Sperling, Carl
 Sperling, Mrs. Carl
 Sperling, Charles C.
 Sperling, Mrs. Charles C.
 Sperling, Charles Coleman, Jr.
 Sperling, John Jefferson
 Sperling, George Roberts
 Spradley, E. D.
 Spradley, Mrs. E. D.
 Spradley, Scott, Jr.
 Stanley, Hoyt
 Stanley, Mrs. Hoyt
 Stanley, Sandra Kay
 Steadman, Horace
 Steadman, Mrs. Horace
 Steadman, Ned
 Steadman, Sue Elizabeth
 Steadman, Jane Dawn
 Stone, Mrs. I. D.
 Stone, Robert Welch
 Stone, Mrs. Robert Welch
 Stone, Robert W., Jr.
 Stowe, John L.
 Stowe, Mrs. John L.
 Street, Dwight Kenneth, Jr.
 Street, Mrs. Dwight Kenneth, Jr.
 Street, D. Kenneth
 Street, Mrs. D. Kenneth
 Stroup, Mrs. Rush
 Stuart, Oscar
 Stuart, Mrs. Oscar
 Sullens, Mrs. Frank
 Sullens, Larry Gene
 Sullens, Douglas
 Sullivan, Ralph P.
 Sullivan, Mrs. Ralph P.
 Sullivan, Sarah Beth
 Sullivan, Dan
 Sullivan, Jane
 Sullivan, Mary Ann
 Summey, Mrs. S. S.
 Suttle, Mrs. Eugene
 Suttle, Harry
 Suttle, Frances
 Suttle, J. L., Jr.
 Suttle, Mrs. J. L., Jr.
 Suttle, Vance
 Suttle, J. Linton, III
 Suttle, Mrs. J. Linton, III
 Suttle, Mrs. Jap
 Suttle, Mrs. John W.
 Swan, Ned B.
 Swan, Mrs. Ned B.
 Sweezy, Clara
 Sweezy, Douglas
 Sweezy, Mrs. Douglas
 Sweezy, Candance Douglas
 Swift, Fred J.
 Swift, Mrs. Fred J.
 Swift, Charles
 Swift, Susan
 Tate, Hoyle
 Tate, Mrs. Hoyle
 Tate, Vivian
 Tate, Sherwood C.
 Tate, Mrs. Sherwood C.
 Taylor, F. H.
 Taylor, Jesse L.
 Taylor, Mrs. Jesse L.
 Taylor, Lucinda Carol
 Taylor, Jesse Lee, Jr.
 Tedder, T. N.
 Tedder, Mrs. T. N.
 Thompson, Mrs. Jean M.
 Thompson, Mary Sue
 Thompson, Dr. John L.

Thorne, Mrs. Charles T.
 Thornton, Mrs. Nina
 Tilt, Kenny
 Tilt, Douglas
 Toms, Mrs. H. L.
 Toms, Mrs. Hugh
 Toms, J. P.
 Toms, Ruth
 Toms, Beth
 Triplett, Hubert
 Triplett, Mrs. Hubert
 Triplett, Carroll
 Triplett, Robert Warren
 Triplett, Larry
 Turner, Ralph
 Tyner, Wade, Jr.
 Tyner, Mrs. Wade, Jr.
 Tyner, David Hampton
 Tyner, Kyle
 VanHoy, Edwin T.
 VanHoy, Mrs. Edwin T.
 VanHoy, Charles
 VanHoy, Jane
 Vassy, L. K.
 Vassy, Mrs. L. K.
 Vassy, Cynthia Diane
 Vess, Steve
 Vickers, Mrs. R. B.
 Wacaster, John
 Wacaster, Mrs. John
 Waldrop, H. E., Jr.
 Waldrop, Mrs. H. E., Jr.
 Waldrop, Richard Elford
 Waldrop, Robert Kennon
 Walker, Mrs. M. D.
 Wall, Boyd
 Wall, Mrs. Boyd
 Wall, Allen
 Wall, Myron David
 Wall, Glenn
 Wall, Mrs. Glenn
 Wall, Michael Glenn
 Wallace, Max L.
 Wallace, Mrs. Max L.
 Walters, Mrs. Ray E.
 Walters, Ray
 Ware, Mrs. J. S.
 Warrick, E. Scott
 Warrick, Mrs. E. Scott
 Warrick, Vicki Lee
 Warrick, Earl Scott, Jr.
 Washburn, Ed
 Washburn, Mrs. Ed
 Washburn, George
 Washburn, Mrs. George
 Watson, Mrs. Fritz N., Sr.
 Watterson, Gene L.
 Watterson, Mrs. Gene L.
 Watterson, Pamela
 Watterson, Gene
 Weathers, Miss Avie
 Weathers, Mrs. Bynum E.
 Weathers, Mrs. Lee B.
 Weathers, Mrs. M. R.
 Weaver, W. J.
 Weaver, Mrs. W. J.
 Weaver, Mildred Sharon
 Weaver, Grace Robbin
 Weaver, Betsy Neil
 Webb, Cecil
 Webb, Mrs. Cecil
 Webb, Harvey Cecil
 Webb, Mrs. E. L.
 Webb, Mrs. Giles
 Webb, Giles Edgar, Jr.
 Webb, Mrs. Giles E., Jr.
 Webb, Giles E., III
 Webb, Jann Gates
 Webb, Mrs. Mayme Wray
 Webb, Mrs. Paul
 Webb, Mrs. Paul, Jr.
 Webb, Mrs. Ruth Pearce
 Webb, Mrs. W. H.
 Wellman, W. T.
 Wellman, Mrs. W. T.
 Wellman, Dicky T.
 Wells, Mrs. J. A.
 Wells, Aurthine
 Wells, Lee McBride
 Wells, Mrs. Lee McBride
 Wells, David Lee
 West, James A., Jr.
 West, Mrs. James A., Jr.
 West, Kathryn Lee
 West, Evelyn Jean
 Westbrook, Eunice
 Whatley, Huel A.
 Whatley, Mrs. Huel A.
 Whatley, Huey Albert, Jr.
 Whisnant, John K.
 Whisnant, Mrs. John K.
 White, Mrs. E. E.
 Whitmire, Guy
 Whitmire, Mrs. Guy
 Whitworth, Ted
 Whitworth, W. G.
 Wilder, W. B.
 Wilder, Mrs. W. B.
 Wilder, Glenda Cavell
 Wilhelm, Miss Minnie
 Wilkins, Jimmy
 Wilkins, Mrs. Jimmy
 Wilkie, J. L.
 Wilkie, Mrs. J. L.
 Williams, Billy Lee
 Williams, Mrs. B. L.
 Williams, Mrs. Charles H.
 Williams, James Speed
 Williams, Mrs. James Speed
 Williams, James Carlyle
 Williams, Mrs. L. P.
 Williams, Mrs. Larry Franklin
 Williams, Mary Ann
 Williamson, Mrs. John N., Jr.
 Willis, Mrs. D. L.
 Willis, D. Paul
 Willis, Mrs. D. Paul
 Willis, Irvin
 Willis, Mrs. Irvin
 Willis, Janet Marie
 Wilson, Donald Paul
 Wilson, Mrs. Donald Paul
 Wilson, G. A.
 Wilson, Mrs. G. A.
 Wilson, Hackett C.
 Wilson, Mrs. Hackett C.
 Wilson, Mrs. Homer
 Wilson, Jimmy
 Wilson, Mrs. Jimmy
 Wilson, Knox
 Wilson, Mrs. Knox
 Wilson, Mrs. Lewis
 Wilson, Paul
 Wilson, Mrs. Paul
 Wilson, Miss Irene
 Wilson, R. K.
 Wilson, Mrs. R. K.
 Wilson, Kenneth Edward
 Wilson, Dr. R. L.
 Wilson, Mrs. R. L.
 Wishnoff, Maurice, Jr.
 Wishnoff, Mrs. Maurice, Jr.
 Wood, J. Carver
 Wood, Mrs. J. Carver
 Wood, James
 Wood, Mrs. James
 Woodson, Harry S.
 Wray, Mrs. George
 Wray, Harvey L.
 Wray, Mrs. Harvey L.
 Wray, Edmund Jones
 Wray, Mrs. Vick
 Wray, Kitty
 Wray, Stough A.
 Wray, Mrs. Stough A.
 Wright, Hugh Sylvester
 Wright, Mrs. Hugh Sylvester
 Wright, James
 Wright, Mrs. James
 Wright, Joseph
 Wylie, Paul
 Wylie, Mrs. Paul
 Yarbrough, Miss Ann
 Yarbrough, William F.
 Yarbrough, Mrs. William F.
 Yarbrough, Elizabeth Anne
 Yates, Joe C.
 Yates, Mrs. Joe C.
 Yates, Jo Ann
 Yelton, Dr. John
 Yelton, Mrs. John
 Yelton, Adona Sue
 Yelton, Paris L.

Yelton, Mrs. Paris L.
Yelton, Robert William
Yelton, Don
Young, Carlos
Young, Mrs. Carlos
Young, Carlos L., Jr.
Young, Edna Anne
Young, Kothleen Alice
Young, Stephen Lewis
Young, Ed

Young, Mrs. Ed
Young, Marsho
Young, G. B.
Young, Mrs. G. B.
Young, H. Fields, Jr.
Young, Mrs. H. Fields, Jr.
Young, H. Fields, III
Young, Horriet Ann
Young, Lomor
Young, Mrs. Lamor

Young, William Carlos
Young, Douglas Bryon
Young, Michael Horrill
Young, Nina Judy
Young, Eugene Fields
Young, Eugenio Lee
Young, Lomar Lewis, Jr.
Young, Mrs. Lomor Lewis, Jr.



D02608578-



Duke University Libraries